

# Parallel Adaptive High-Order CFD Simulations Characterizing SOFIA Cavity Acoustics

Michael Barad

Applied Modeling & Simulation Branch  
NASA Ames Research Center

Co-workers : Christoph Brehm and Cetin Kiris



Applied Modeling & Simulation Seminar Series,  
NASA Ames Research Center, January 27, 2015

# Outline

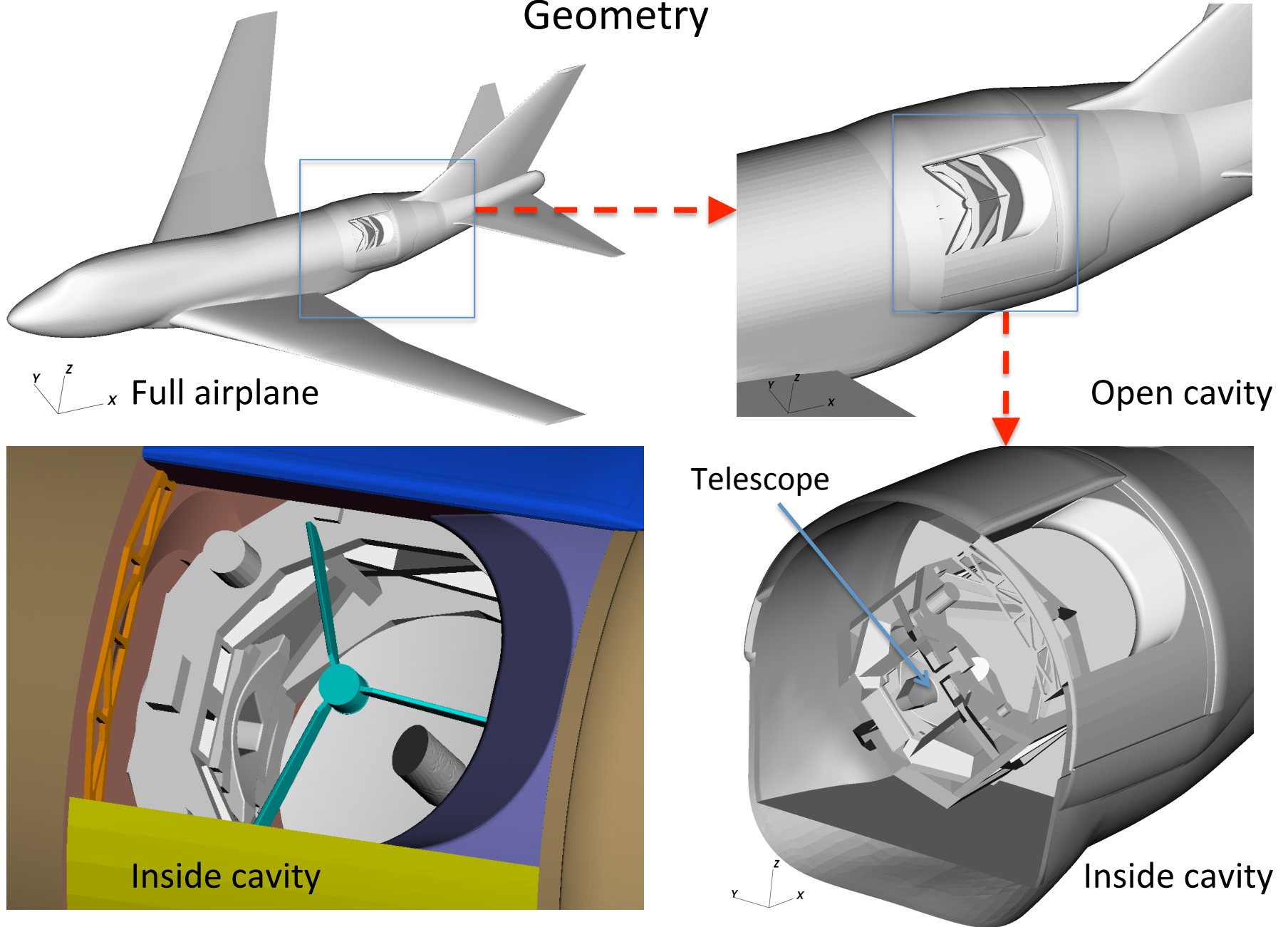
- Background/Motivation
- LAVA Solver
- SOFIA Simulation Setup
- General Flow Features
- Spectral Analysis
- Proper Orthogonal Decomposition Analysis
- Conclusions



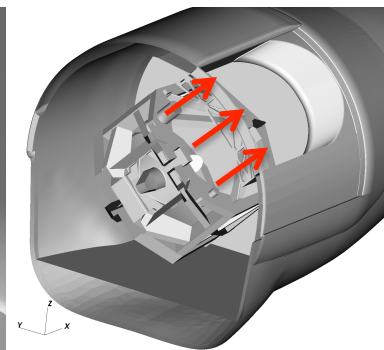
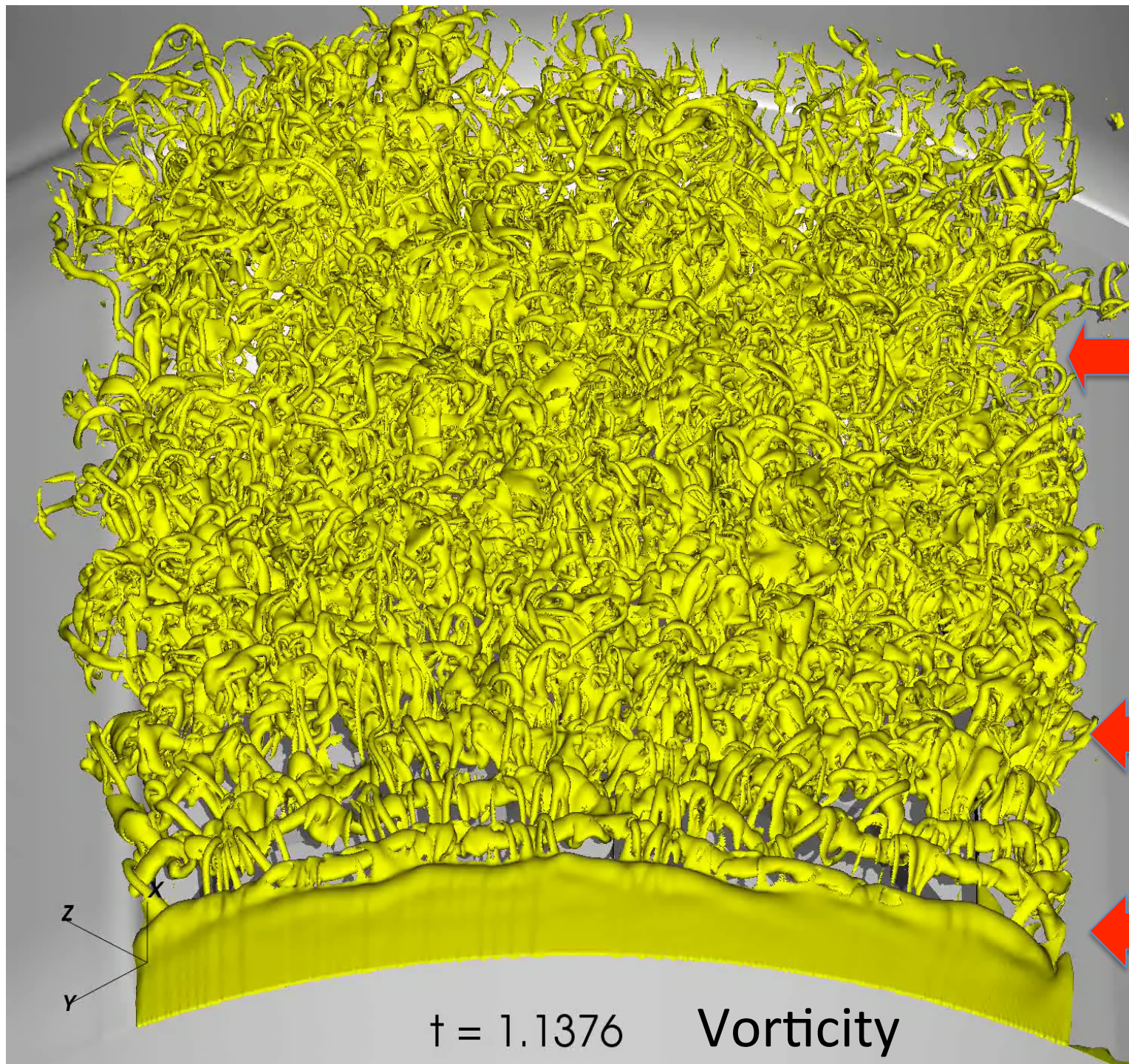
# Motivation

- Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA)
  - 2.5 meter telescope mounted in open cavity of Boeing 747SP
  - SOFIA observations are made when aircraft is at 12-14 kilometers
- SOFIA imaging quality is degraded by:
  - Local refraction index within telescope line-of-sight that depends on density fluctuations in shear layer
  - Unsteady pressure field (acoustics) inside cavity can induce telescope vibrations
- High-fidelity unsteady simulations were needed to better understand density fluctuations in line-of-sight, and pressure field in cavity
- **LAVA solver** with Cartesian immersed boundaries **selected** due to:
  - Geometric complexity -> **NO MANUAL VOLUME GRID GENERATION!!**
  - Accuracy of interior discretization scheme -> **HIGH SPECTRAL ACCURACY!!**
  - **HIGH PARALLEL SCALABILITY!!**

# Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) Geometry







Fine scale vortices sweep across cavity opening.

Breakdown of coherent structures results in fine scale hairpin vortices.

Primary and secondary instabilities can be observed in the initial shear layer region.

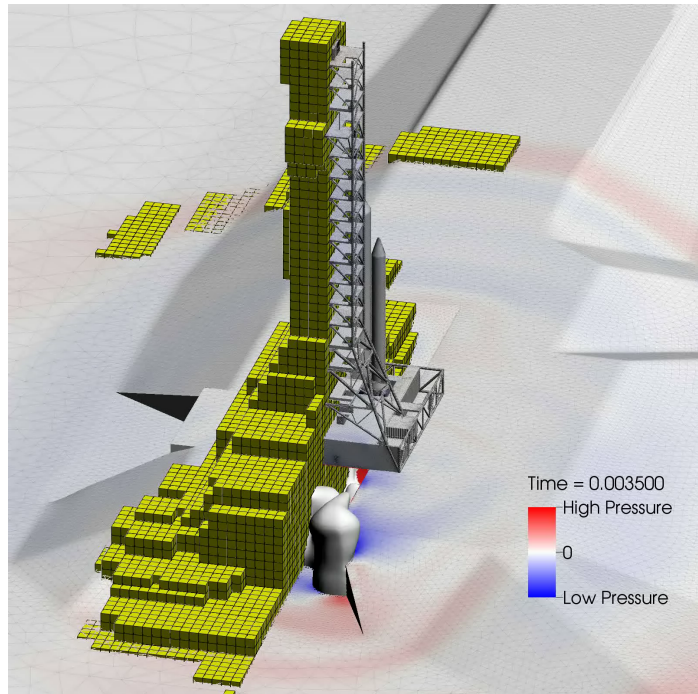
# Outline

- Background/Motivation
- LAVA Solver
- SOFIA Simulation Setup
- General Flow Features
- Spectral Analysis
- Proper Orthogonal Decomposition Analysis
- Conclusions

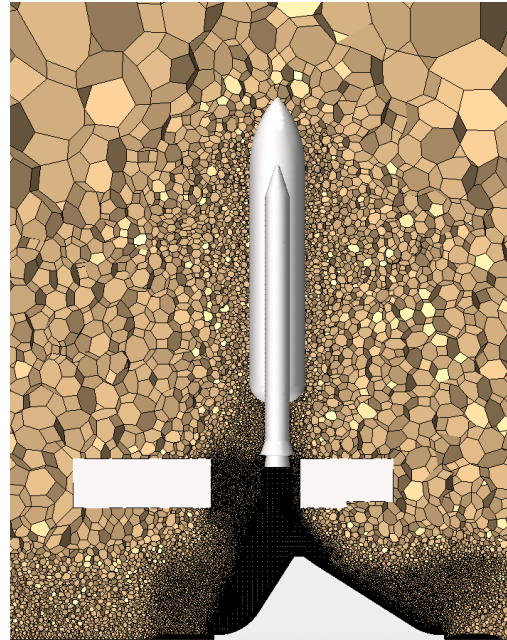


# Launch Ascent & Vehicle Aerodynamics (LAVA)

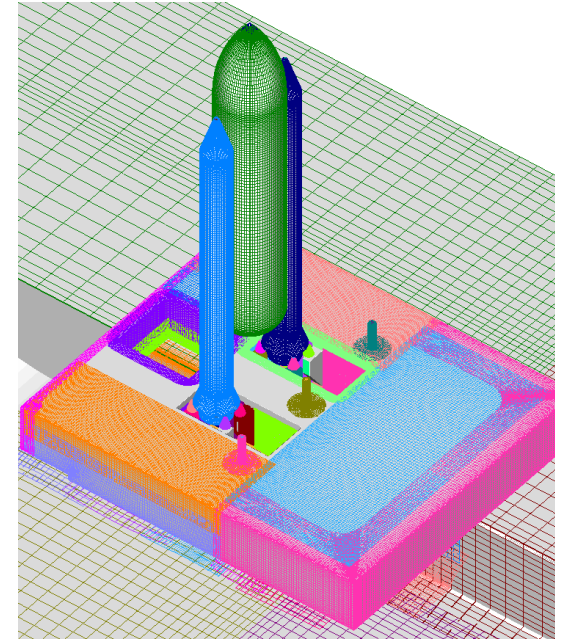
- Highly flexible with respect to computational mesh
  - Block-structured Cartesian meshes with Adaptive Mesh Refinement (AMR) and Immersed-Boundary (IB)
  - Unstructured arbitrary polyhedral meshes
  - Structured curvilinear overset meshes
- Overset coupling of different mesh types



***Cartesian AMR***



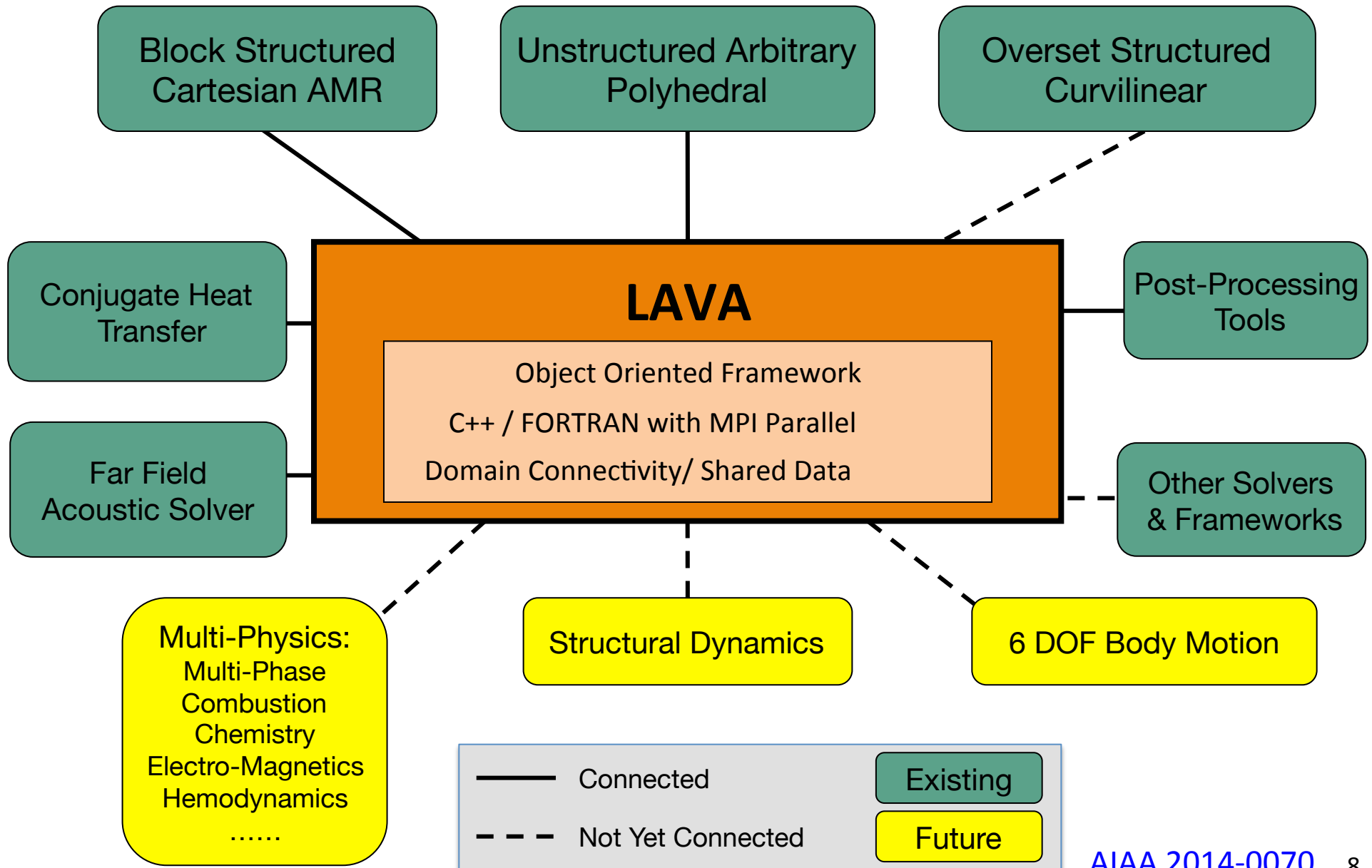
***Unstructured Arbitrary  
Polyhedral***



***Overset Structured  
Curvilinear***

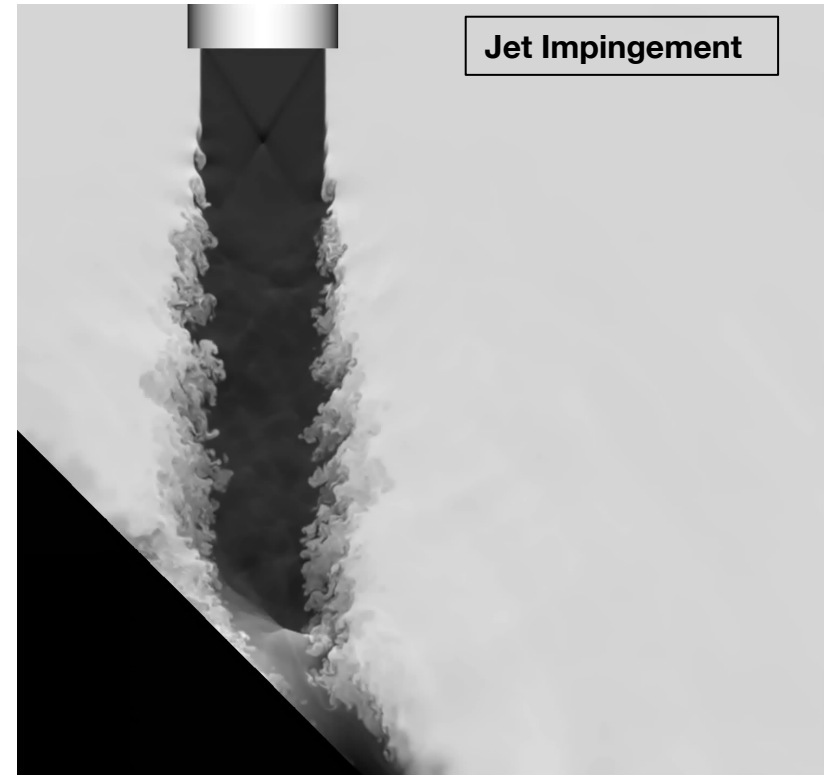
Kiris, Barad, Housman, Sozer, Brehm, Moini-Yekta, AIAA 2014-0070  
Brehm, Barad, Housman, Kiris, AIAA 2014-1278  
Sozer, Brehm, Kiris, AIAA 2014-1440

# LAVA Infrastructure Design



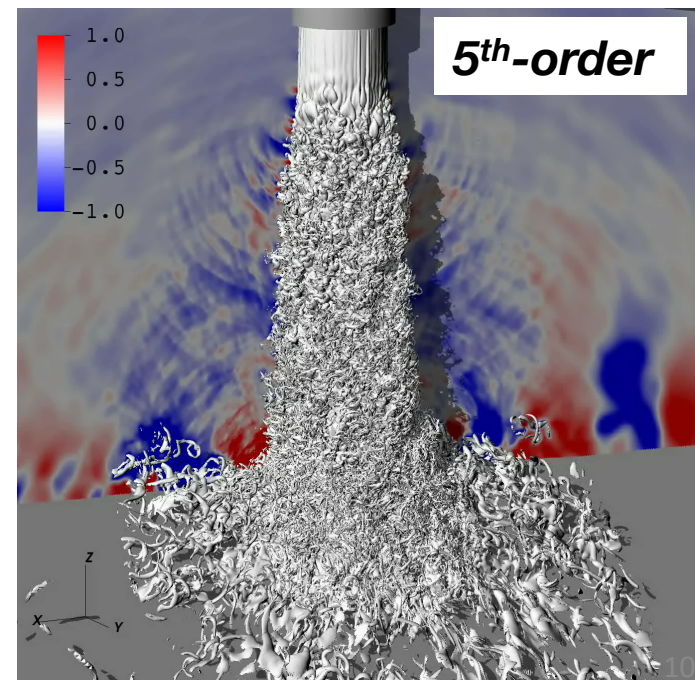
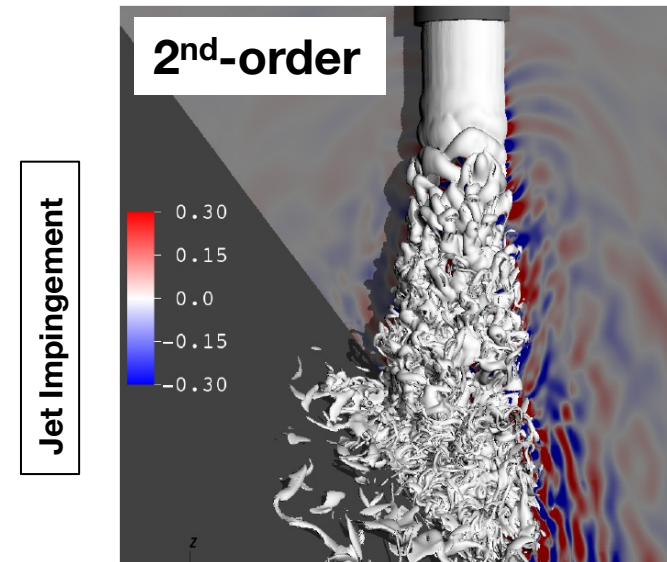
# Block-Structured Cartesian

- Physics:
  - Compressible Navier-Stokes formulation
  - Multi-species formulation
  - SA and SST turbulence models and DES
- Numerics:
  - Higher-order spatial accuracy for convective terms (WENO, LAD, Central, etc) **AIAA 2014-1278**
  - Time stepping options:
    - High-order explicit (Shu-Osher form)
    - Implicit with dual-time stepping
  - Preconditioning for low speed flows
  - Roe, AUSMPW+, central and van Leer convective flux formulations
  - Line relaxation linear solver for implicit
  - Parallel with MPI, uses Chombo
- Gridding:
  - Automatic volume grid generation requiring only a surface triangulation
  - Adaptive mesh refinement (AMR) for tracking flow features with local refinement (gradient, entropy adjoint, and geometry based)



# Block-Structured Cartesian

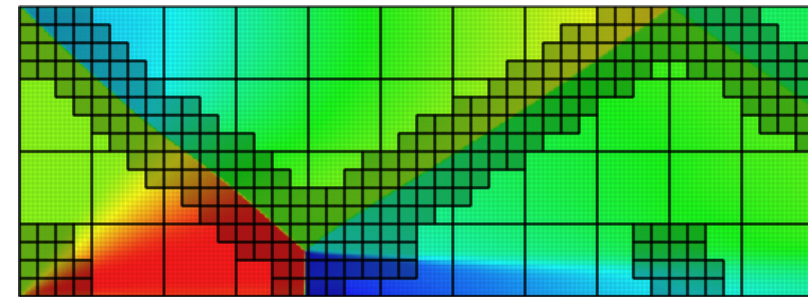
- Physics:
  - Compressible Navier-Stokes formulation
  - Multi-species formulation
  - SA and SST turbulence models and DES
- Numerics:
  - Higher-order spatial accuracy for convective terms (WENO, LAD, Central, etc) **AIAA 2014-1278**
  - Time stepping options:
    - High-order explicit (Shu-Osher form)
    - Implicit with dual-time stepping
  - Preconditioning for low speed flows
  - Roe, AUSMPW+, central and van Leer convective flux formulations
  - Line relaxation linear solver for implicit
  - Parallel with MPI, uses Chombo
- Gridding:
  - Automatic volume grid generation requiring only a surface triangulation
  - Adaptive mesh refinement (AMR) for tracking flow features with local refinement (gradient, entropy adjoint, and geometry based)



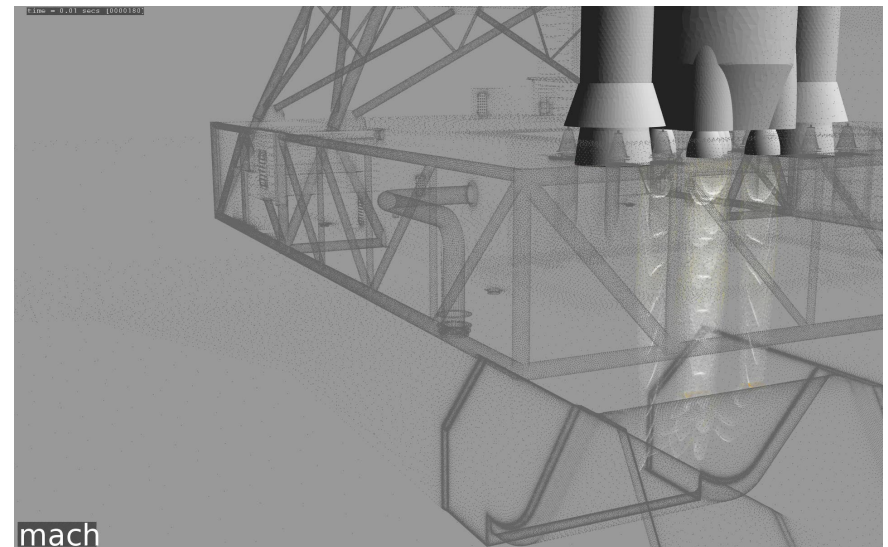


# Block-Structured Cartesian

- Physics:
  - Compressible Navier-Stokes formulation
  - Multi-species formulation
  - SA and SST turbulence models and DES
- Numerics:
  - Higher-order spatial accuracy for convective terms (WENO, LAD, Central, etc) **AIAA 2014-1278**
  - Time stepping options:
    - High-order explicit (Shu-Osher form)
    - Implicit with dual-time stepping
  - Preconditioning for low speed flows
  - Roe, AUSMPW+, central and van Leer convective flux formulations
  - Line relaxation linear solver for implicit
  - Parallel with MPI, uses Chombo
- Gridding:
  - Automatic volume grid generation requiring only a surface triangulation
  - Adaptive mesh refinement (AMR) for tracking flow features with local refinement (gradient, entropy adjoint, and geometry based)



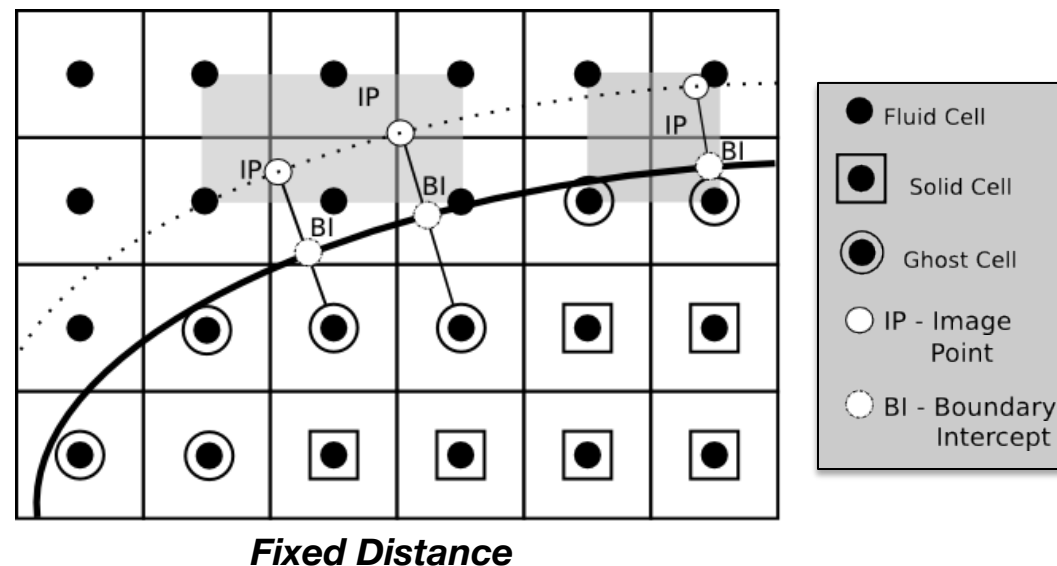
Shock Reflection in a Rectangular Channel



Arbitrarily Complex Geometry

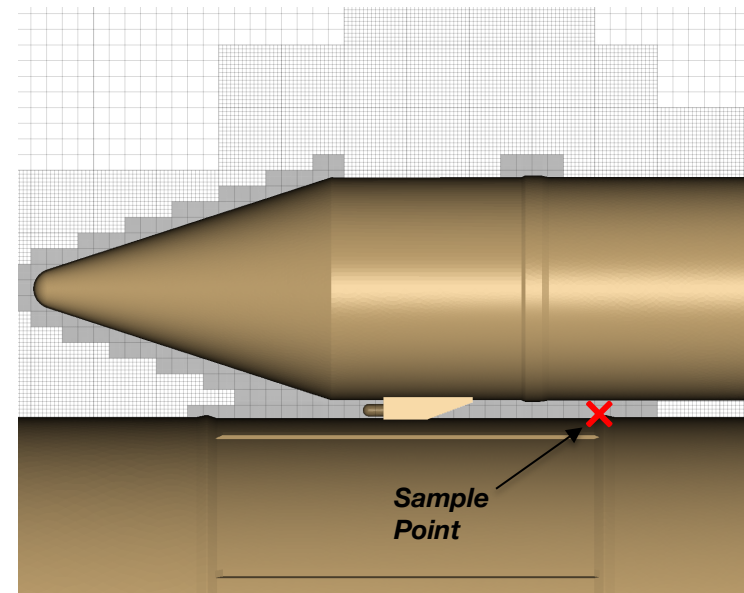
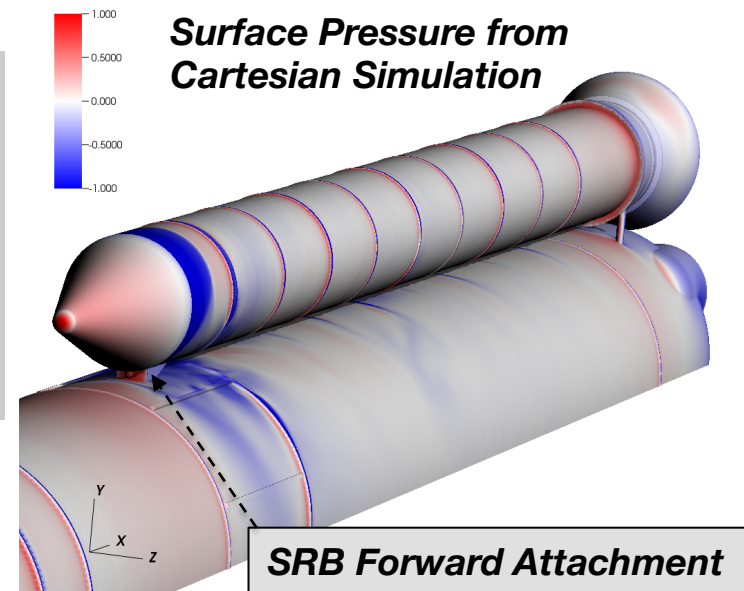
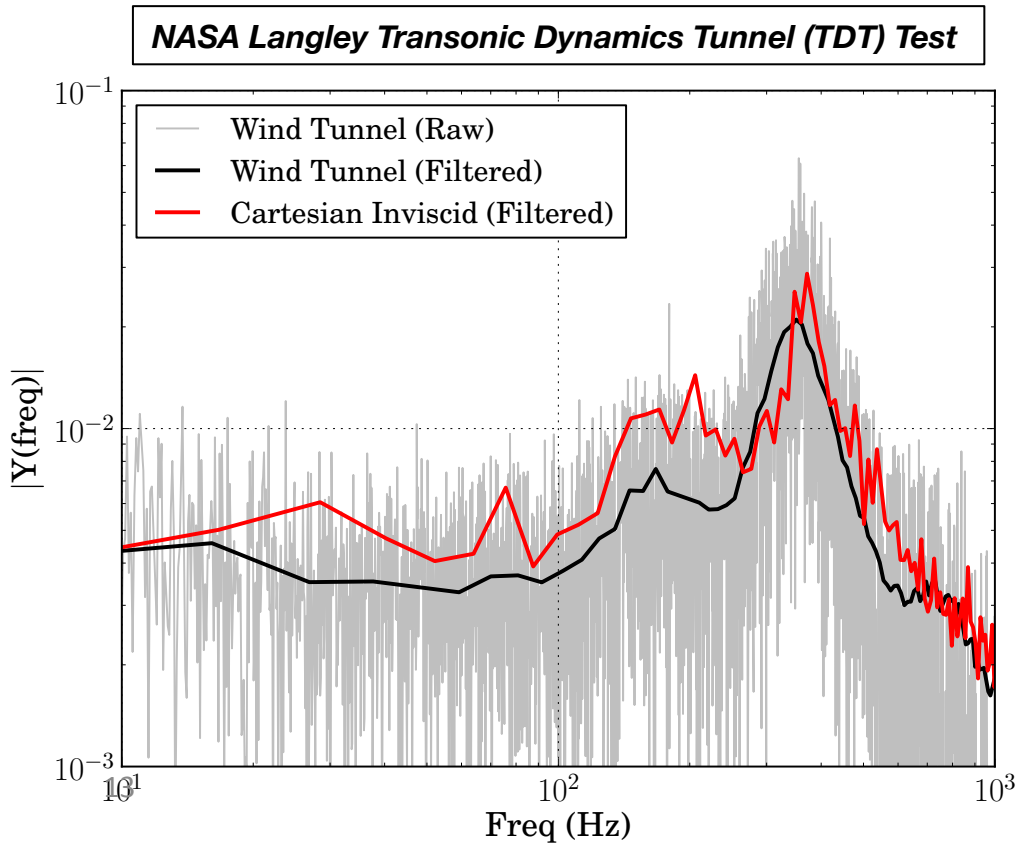
# Cartesian Immersed-Boundary

- Sharp interface immersed-boundary representation of geometry
- Image points at fixed distance
- Interpolation to image points from fluid interior (tri-linear or linear least-squares)
- Boundary condition imposed on “ghost cells”
- Fast parallel algorithms are implemented:
  - Inside-outside testing by multi-resolution binning
  - Exact distance to surface triangulation (including point to plane and point to edge cases)
- Excellent for highly complex geometry, and works well with AMR



# LAVA Validations: SLS Unsteady Ascent Aerodynamics

- Protuberances and attachment hardware may cause significant aerodynamic unsteadiness. Cyclical loads and an undesirable acoustic environment
- Rapid design analysis is possible with the Cartesian solver which eliminates time consuming mesh generation
- Comparison of LAVA results and experimental data focused on oscillatory wake region behind the SRB forward attachment.



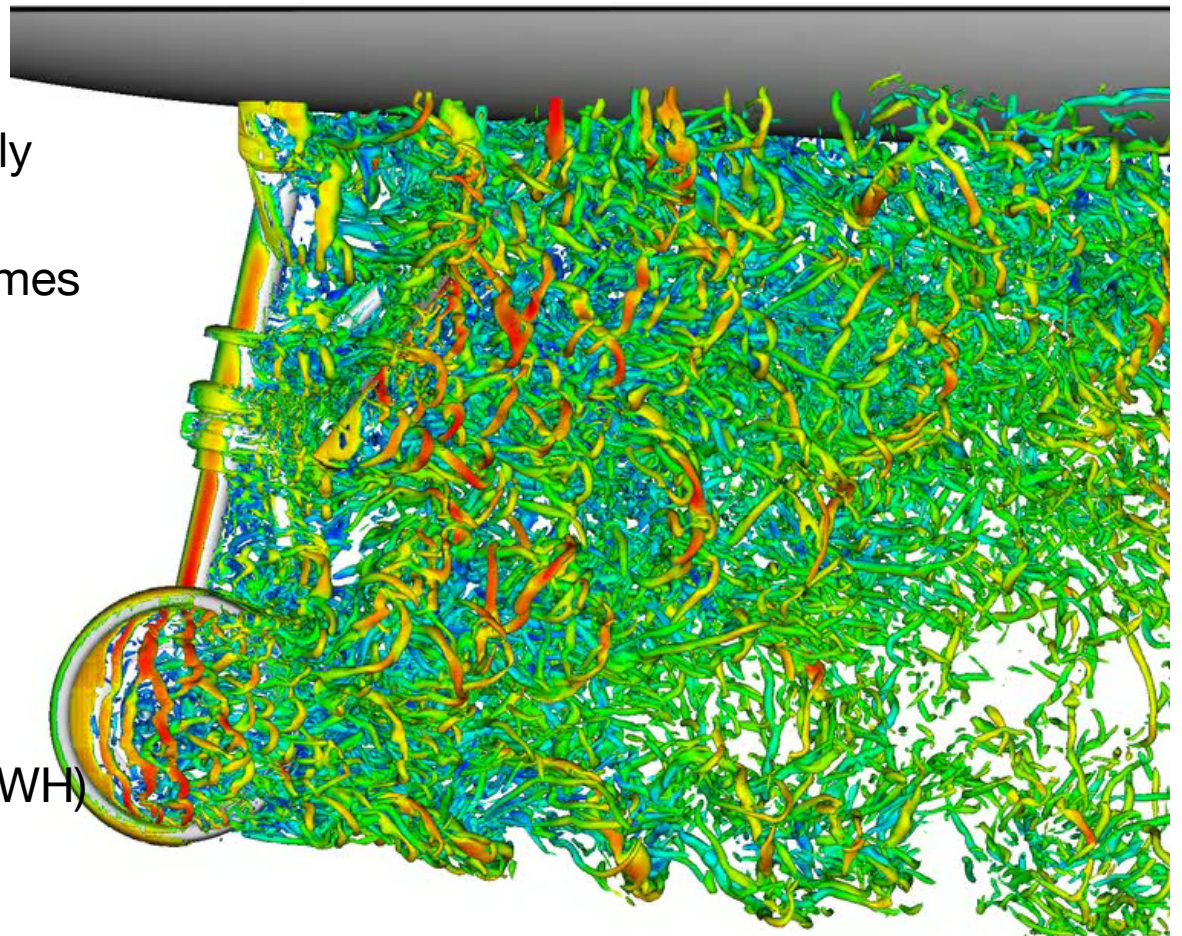
# LAVA Validations: AIAA BANC-III Test Case : Landing Gear

The **LAVA** solver was applied to a workshop Landing Gear problem

- Immersed-boundary (IB) utilized
  - Slip, no-slip, and wall modeled boundary conditions tested
  - Surface triangulation only requirement
- Higher-order accurate schemes
  - Fifth-order WENO Convection
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> order viscous (ILES)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> order inter-level operators
- Time-accurate simulations
  - 4th order explicit RK
- Ffowcs William-Hawkings (FWH) noise propagation module

Mach = 0.166  
Re = 73000

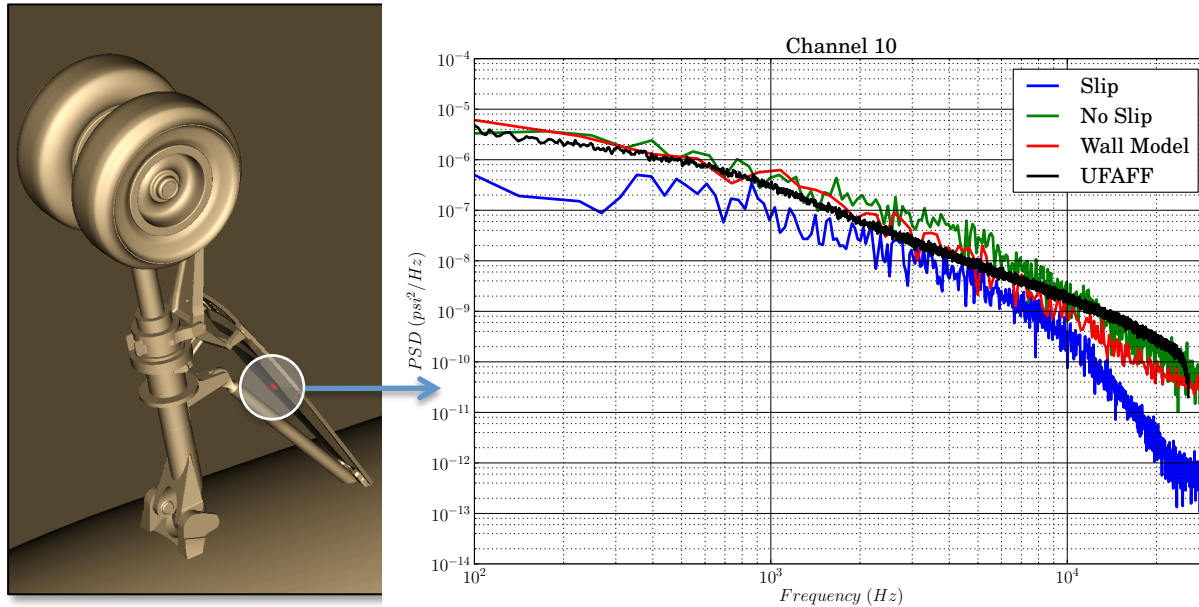
Uref = 56.3 m/s  
Tref = 286 K  
Pref = 99241 Pa



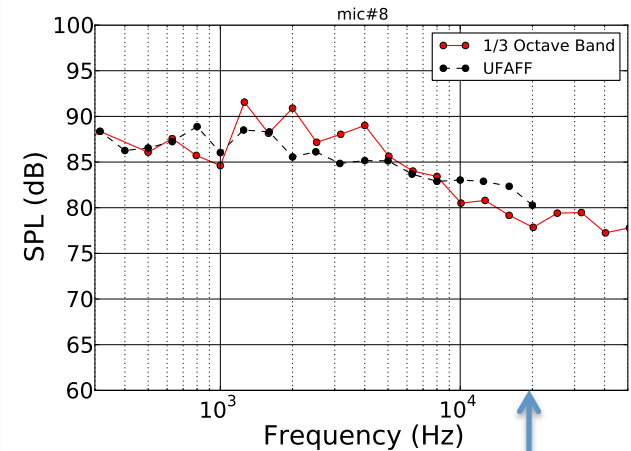


# LAVA Validations: AIAA BANC-III Test Case : Landing Gear

## Power Spectral Density of Pressure

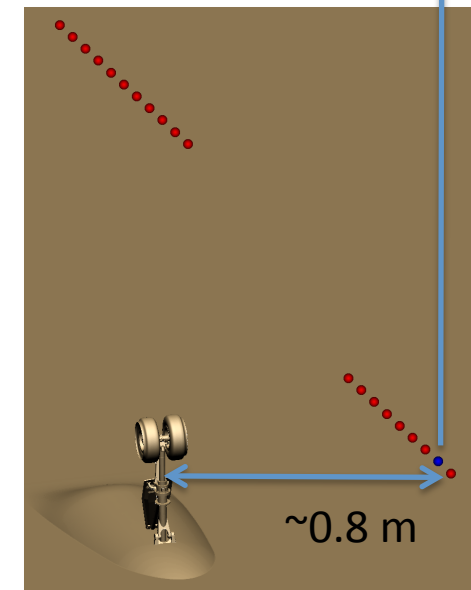
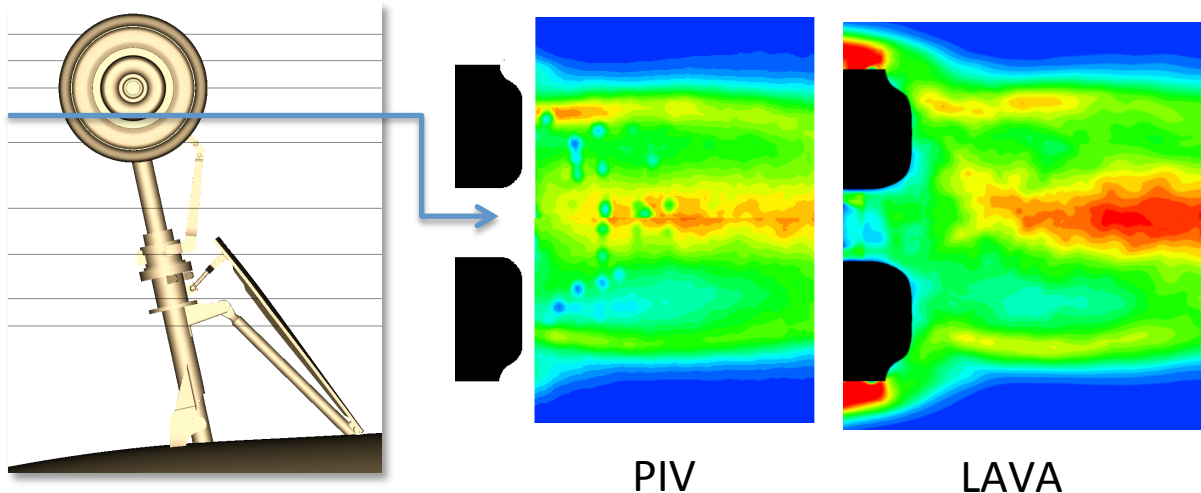


## Far Field Acoustic SPL



Ffowcs William-Hawkins (FWK)  
acoustic propagation LAVA  
module utilized

## PIV Mean Turbulent Kinetic Energy Comparison



# Outline

- Background/Motivation
- LAVA Solver
- SOFIA Simulation Setup
- General Flow Features
- Spectral Analysis
- Proper Orthogonal Decomposition Analysis
- Conclusions

# Simulation Setup

- Flight conditions:

Mach = 0.88	Uref = 259.7 m/s
Re = 5.25e6 per m	Tref = 216.7 K
	Pref = 17874 Pa

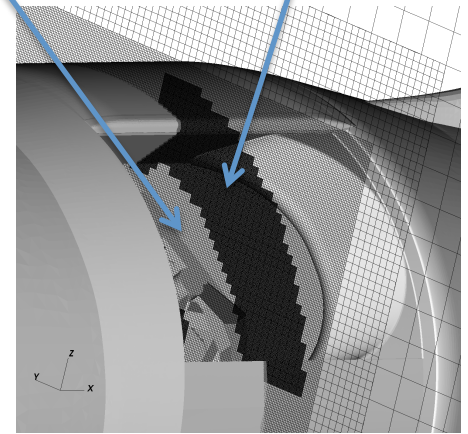
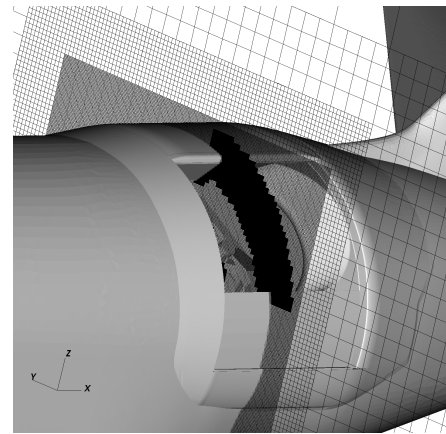
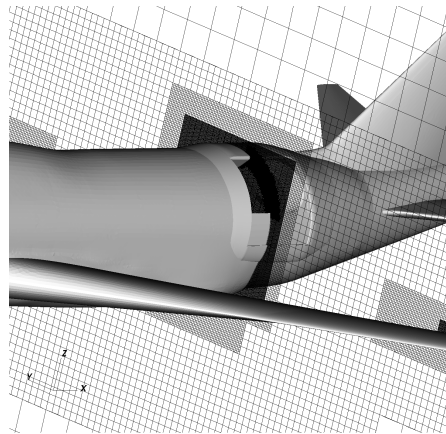
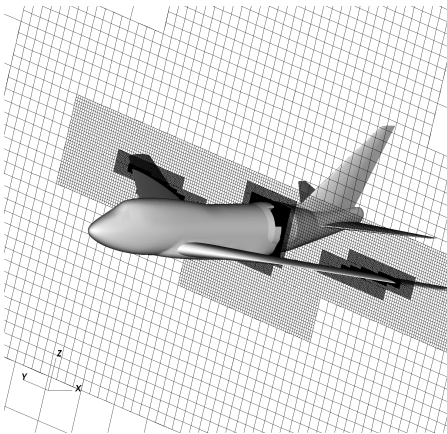
- Time Discretization: 4<sup>th</sup> order Explicit Runge-Kutta:  
dt = 6e-6 s, duration = 1.19 s (198000 steps).
- Space Discretization: 5<sup>th</sup> order WENO-5Z
  - Block-structured Cartesian
  - Immersed boundary
- ILES simulations focused on cavity flow, but whole vehicle is included



# Automatic Volume Mesh Generation



- Coarse mesh
  - 7 Levels
  - 173 million cells total
  - 24mm dx in shear layer and cavity
- Fine mesh
  - 8 Levels
  - 246 million cells total
  - 6mm dx in shear layer
  - 24mm dx in cavity



Fine mesh: 8 levels

# SOFIA Simulations Overview

- Parallel scaling analysis performed
  - Identify limits to scaling
  - Test supercomputer system
  - Identify appropriate resources for flow analysis
- Coarse and fine unsteady ILES simulations have been performed
- Computed results were post-processed using:
  - Unsteady visualization
  - Point and surface spectral analysis
  - Proper Orthogonal Decomposition

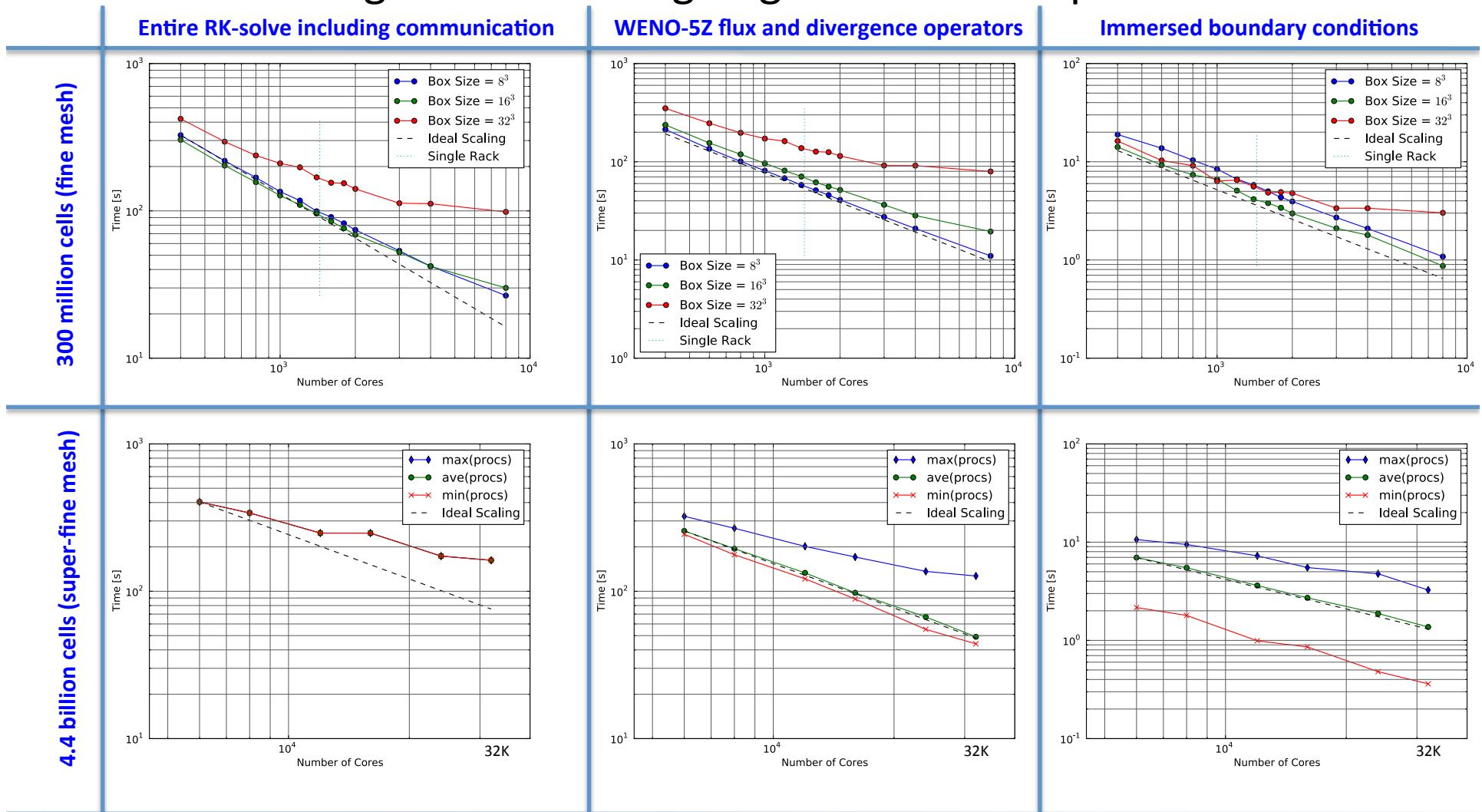
# Strong Parallel Scaling: Domain Decomposition

Mesh	Box Size	Number of Boxes	Number of Cells No Ghosts	Number of Cells With 3 Ghosts	(# With Ghosts)/(# No Ghosts)	Procs Used
Fine (8 levels)	$8^3$	392K	$2.0 \times 10^8$	$1.1 \times 10^9$	5.36	400 to 8K
Fine (8 levels)	$16^3$	60K	$2.5 \times 10^8$	$6.4 \times 10^8$	2.60	400 to 8K
Fine (8 levels)	$32^3$	10K	$3.4 \times 10^8$	$5.7 \times 10^8$	1.67	400 to 8K
Extra Fine (9 levels)	$32^3$	137K	$4.4 \times 10^9$	$7.5 \times 10^9$	1.67	6K to 32K

- For each fixed mesh, vary number of cores (i.e. strong scaling)
- Geometry based tagging used here
- Scaling study was performed for 25 time steps. 250M grid was used for the flow analysis.

3 Ghosts:  
 $(N+6)^3/N^3$

# Strong Parallel Scaling: Algorithm Decomposition



Strong parallel scaling study for 25 time steps:

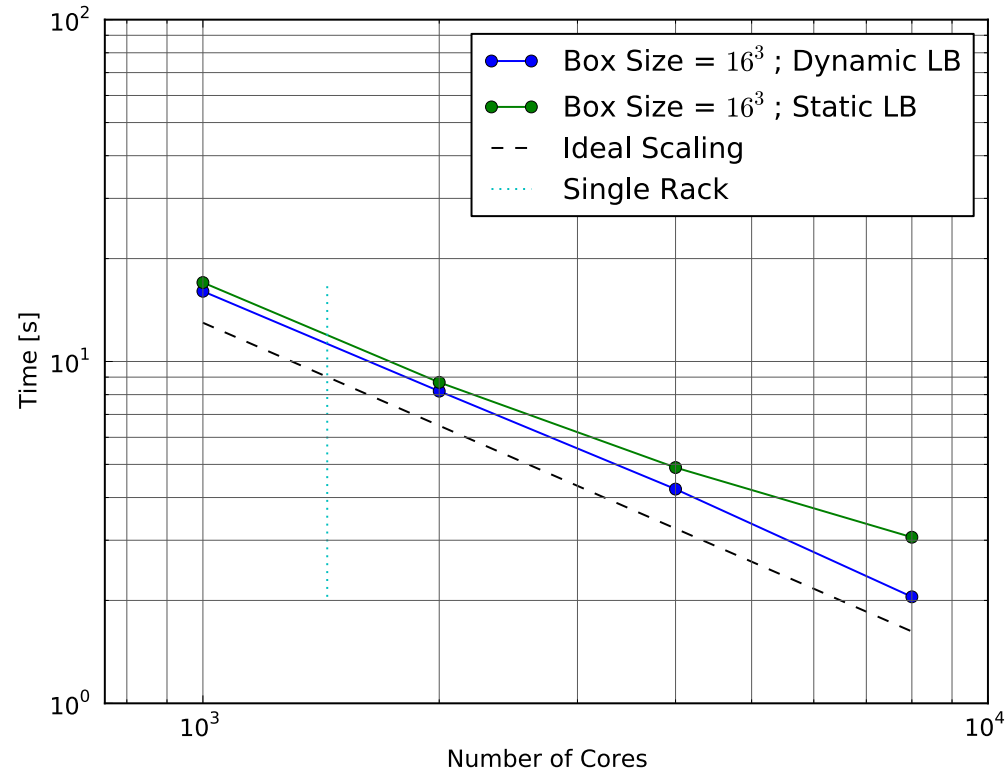
- Top row is max time over all procs
- Bottom row is min/ave/max time over all procs shown for box size of  $32^3$

Super-fine mesh, boxes per level = [8,8,12,52,474,7K,4K,126K]. Load balance issue @  $32^3$ :

- Fix 1: Multi-level load balance (i.e. 137K/32K)
- Fix 2: Hybrid MPI/OpenMP for node based balancing
- Fix 3: Mesh meta-data compression ( $16^3 \rightarrow \sim 1e6$  boxes  $\rightarrow$  memory!)



# Strong Parallel Scaling: Dynamic Load Balancing with Mesh Adaption

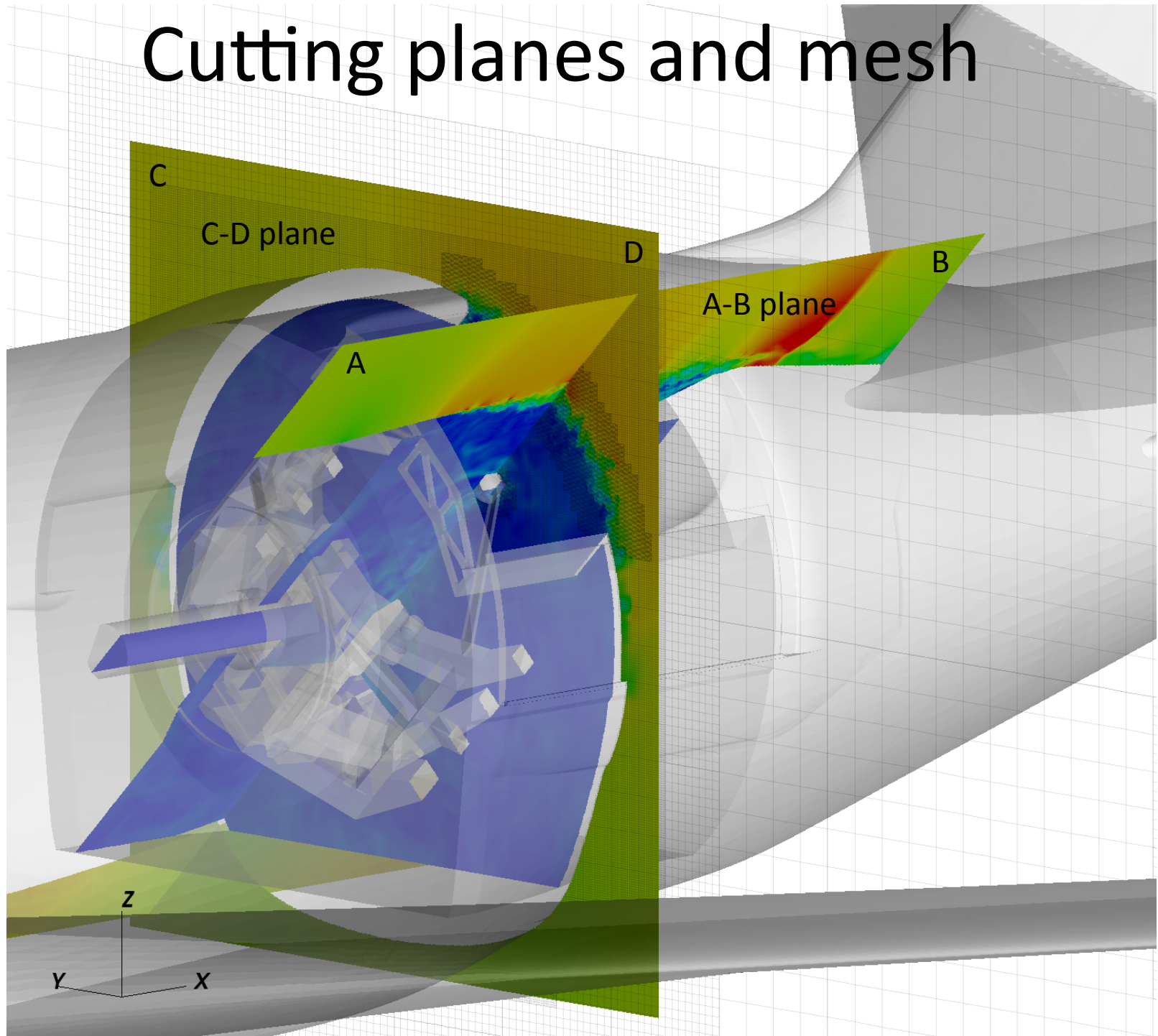


- Strong parallel scaling study for 100 time steps, adaptively regridding every 5 steps, comparing dynamic and static load balancing schemes.
  - 300 million cell mesh, with max time over all procs shown.
  - Timings are for immersed boundary conditions routines only, using box size of  $16^3$ .
- Lattice of boxes is used for dynamic load balancing. Cost per box is stored and used during regrid.

# Outline

- Background/Motivation
- LAVA Solver
- SOFIA Simulation Setup
- **General Flow Features**
- Spectral Analysis
- Proper Orthogonal Decomposition Analysis
- Conclusions

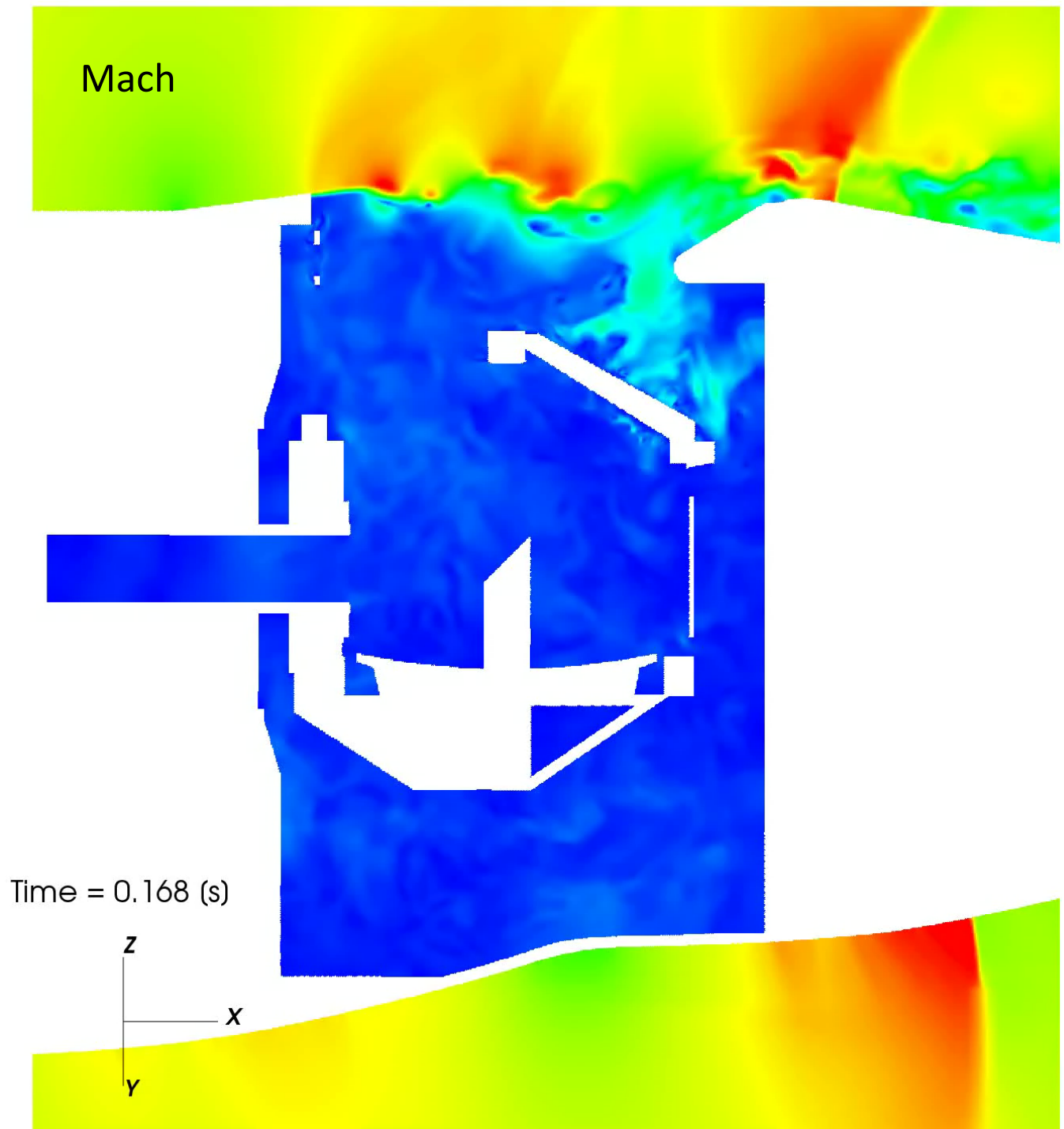
# Cutting planes and mesh



# Coarse Shear Layer Grid

(A-B Plane)

Contours show development of unsteady shear layer and low-speed unsteady cavity circulation. Also apparent are acoustic waves.

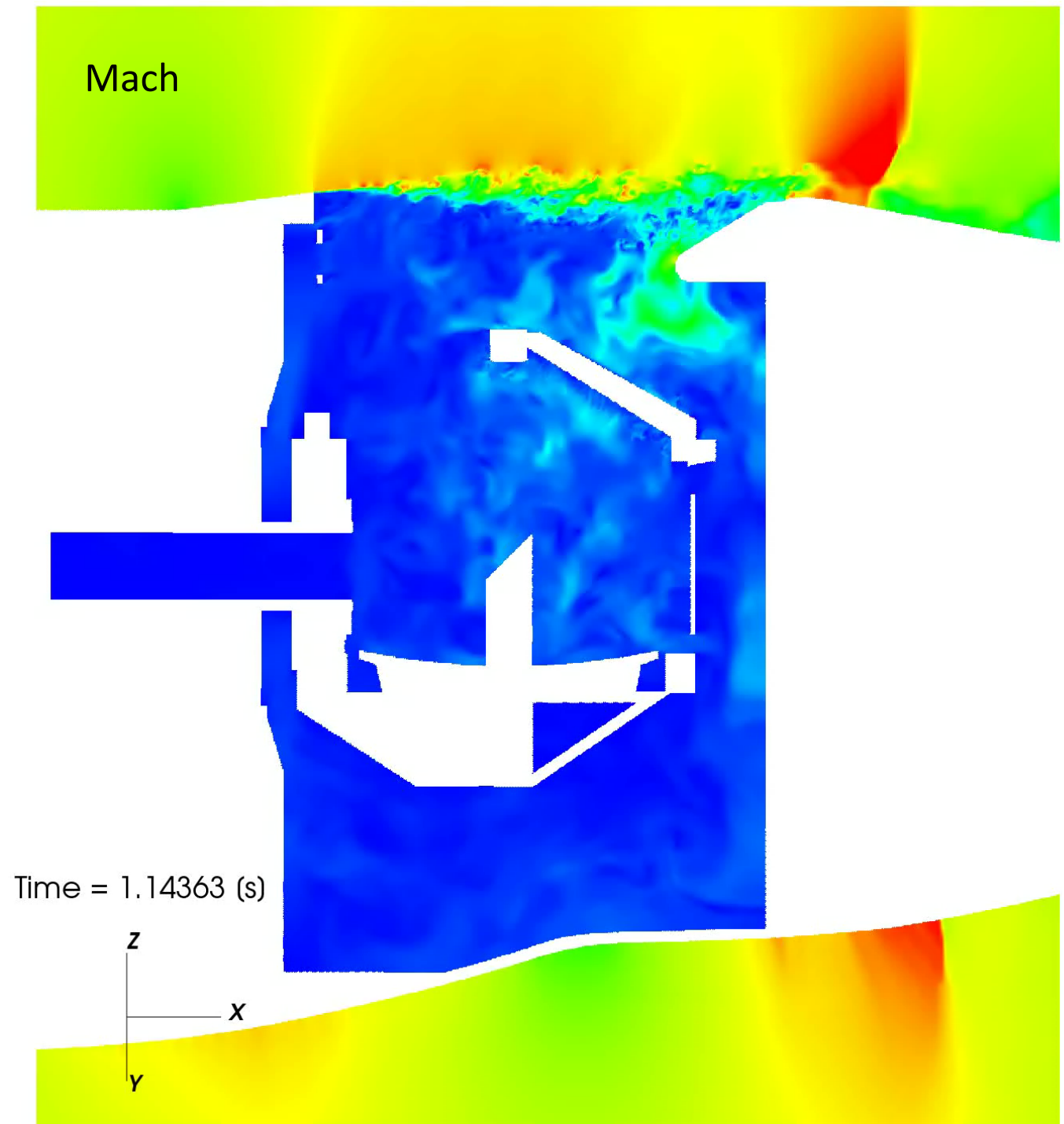




## Fine Shear Layer Grid

(A-B Plane)

Simulation with refined mesh shows earlier breakup of the shear layer, reducing size of vortical structures and reduced shock interaction.

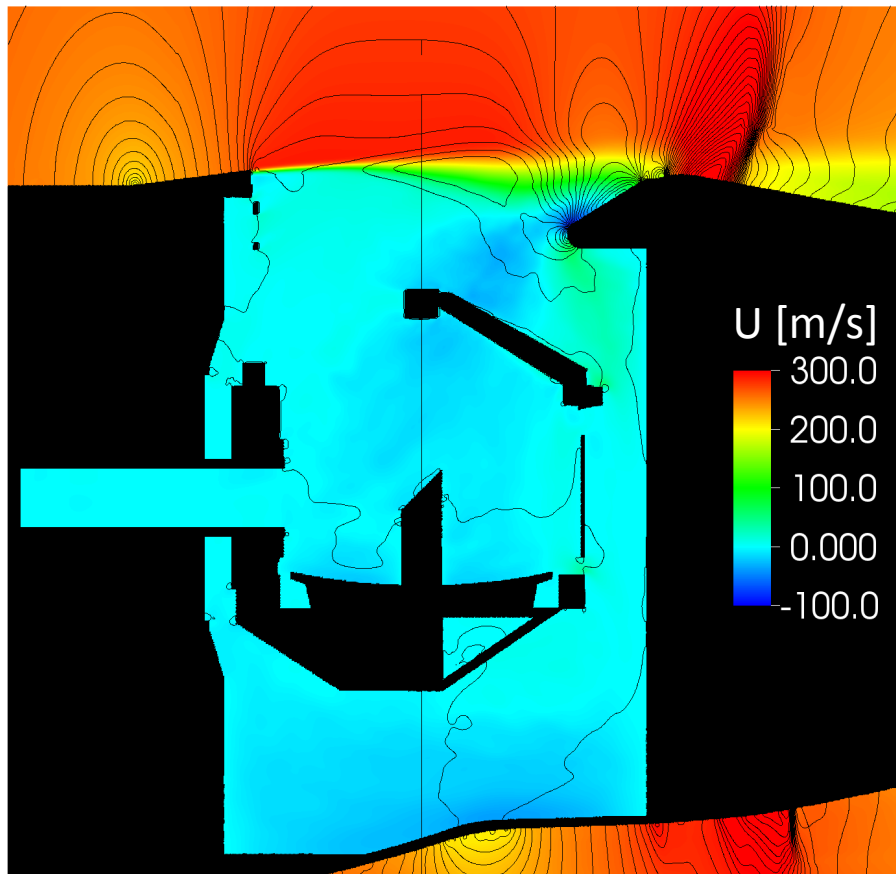


# Mean Flow

Generally mean flow field is very similar for both grids. Shear layer affected by enhanced resolution.

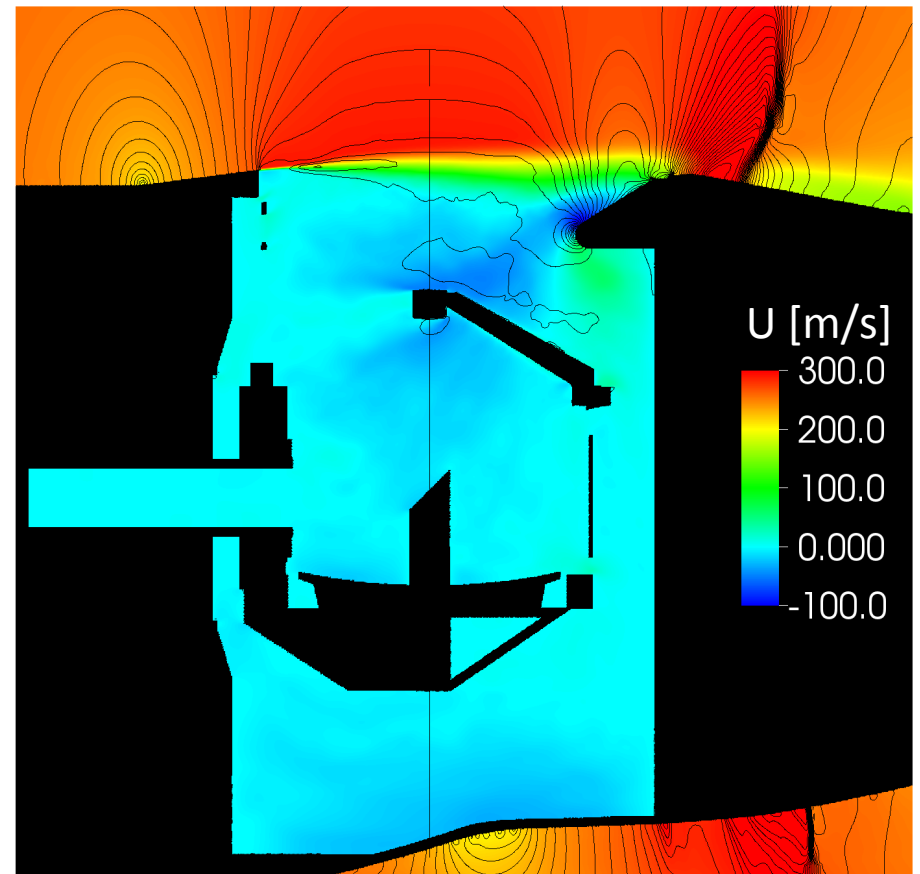
Coarse Grid

A-B Plane



Fine Grid

A-B Plane

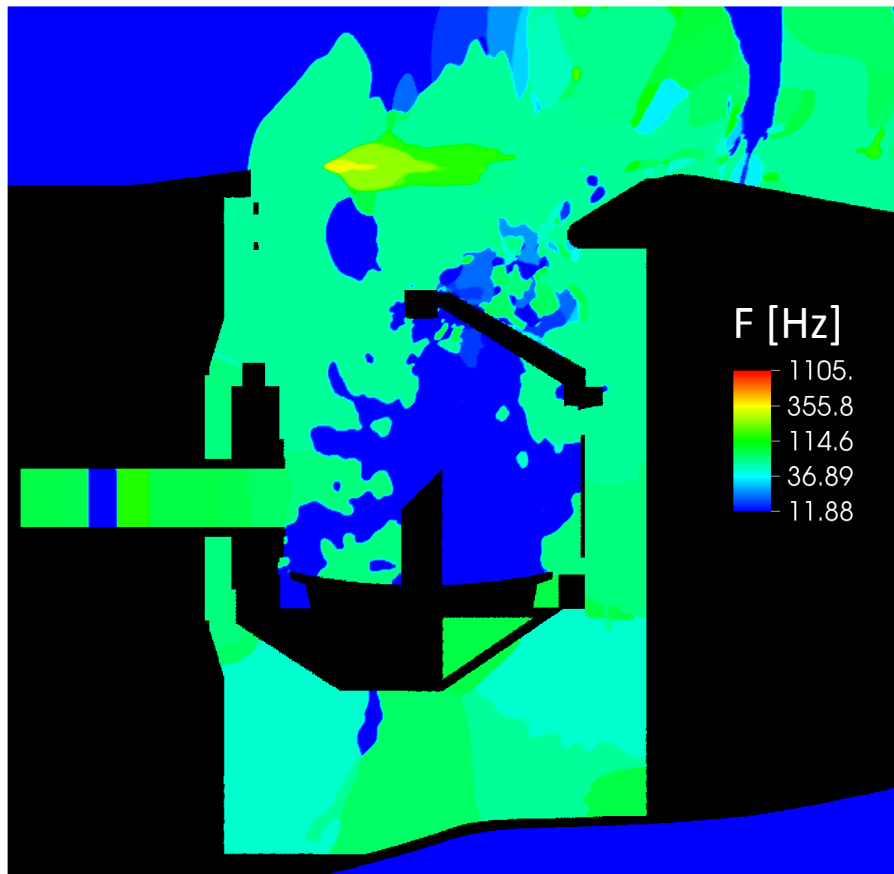


Streamwise velocity (colors) and pressure contour lines

# Spectral Analysis: Frequency at Peak Amplitude [Hz]

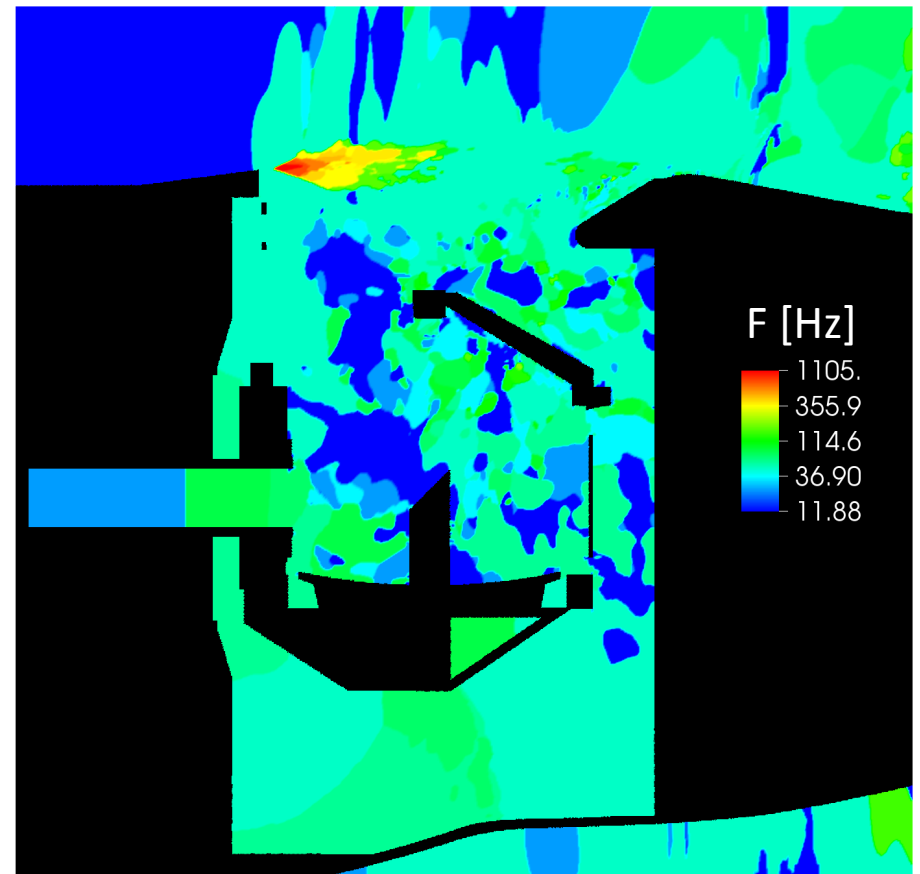
Coarse Grid

A-B Plane



Fine Grid

A-B Plane

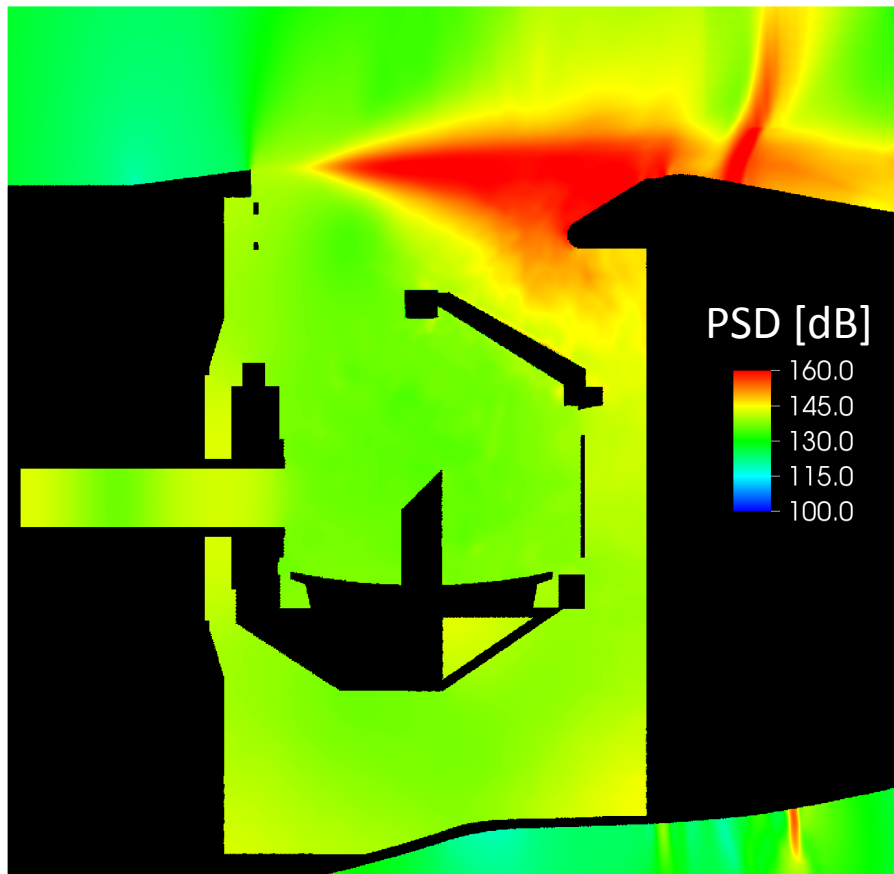


The fine mesh is able to better resolve the initial growth of the shear layer instability. Highest frequency at the start of the shear layer is associated to primary instability.

# Spectral Analysis: Total PSD [dB]

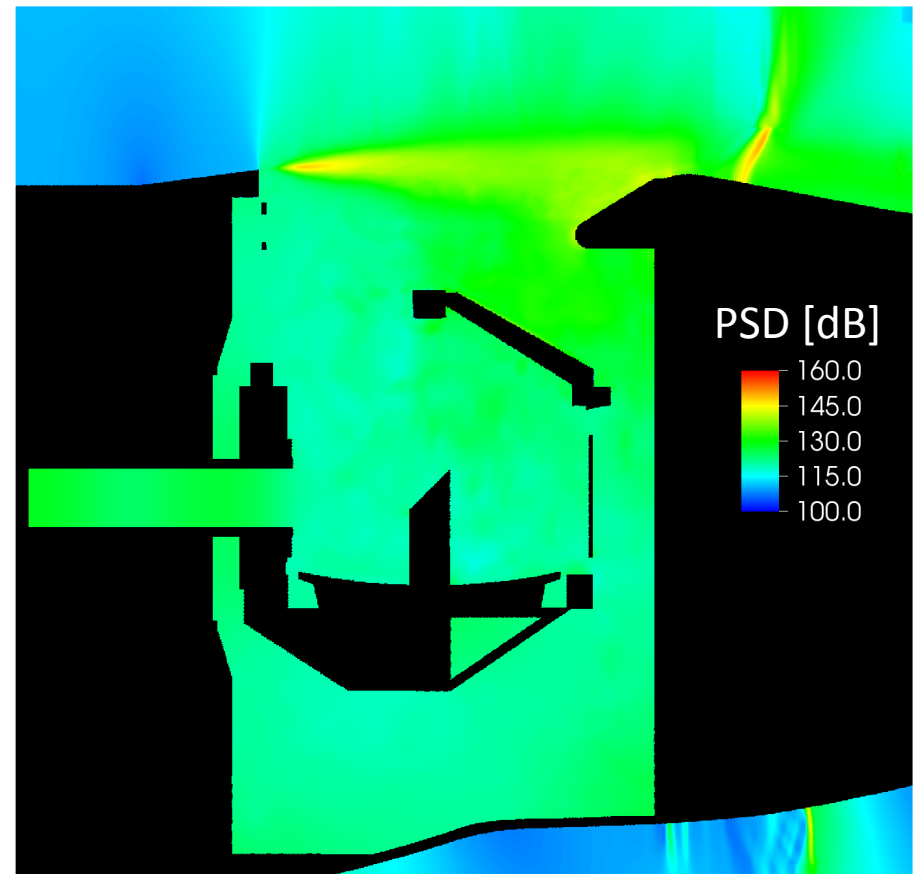
Coarse Grid

A-B Plane



Fine Grid

A-B Plane



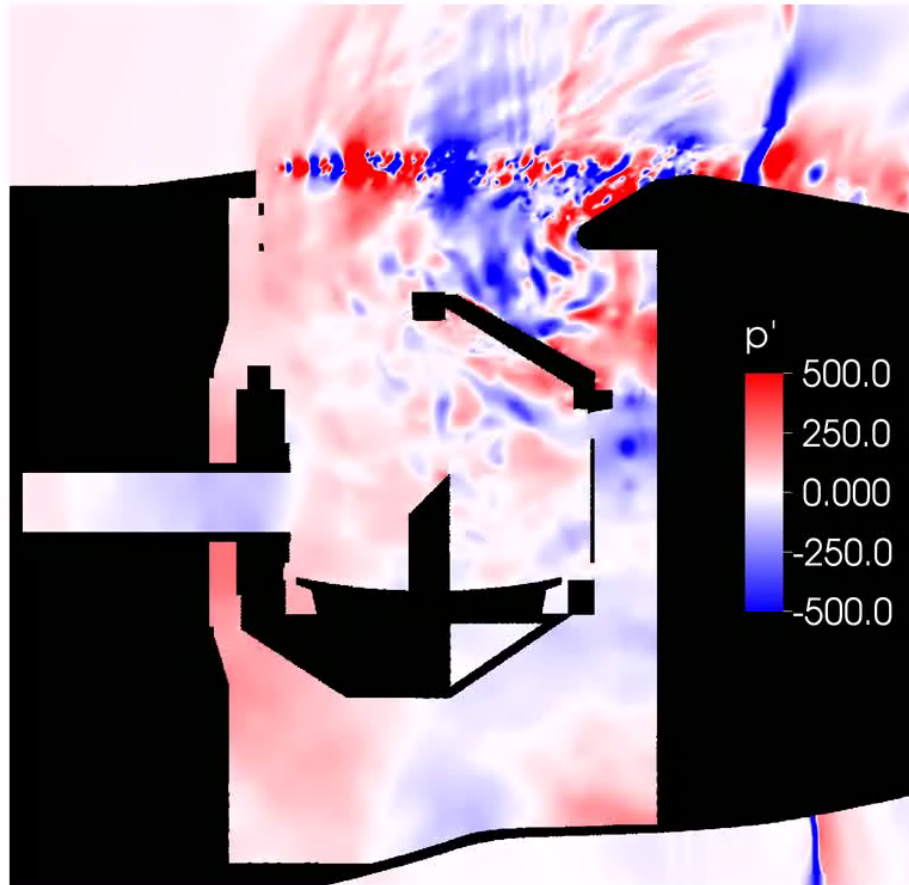
Breakdown of large coherent structures on fine mesh reduces total PSD values. Fine grid solution provides an improved mechanism for the energy cascade.



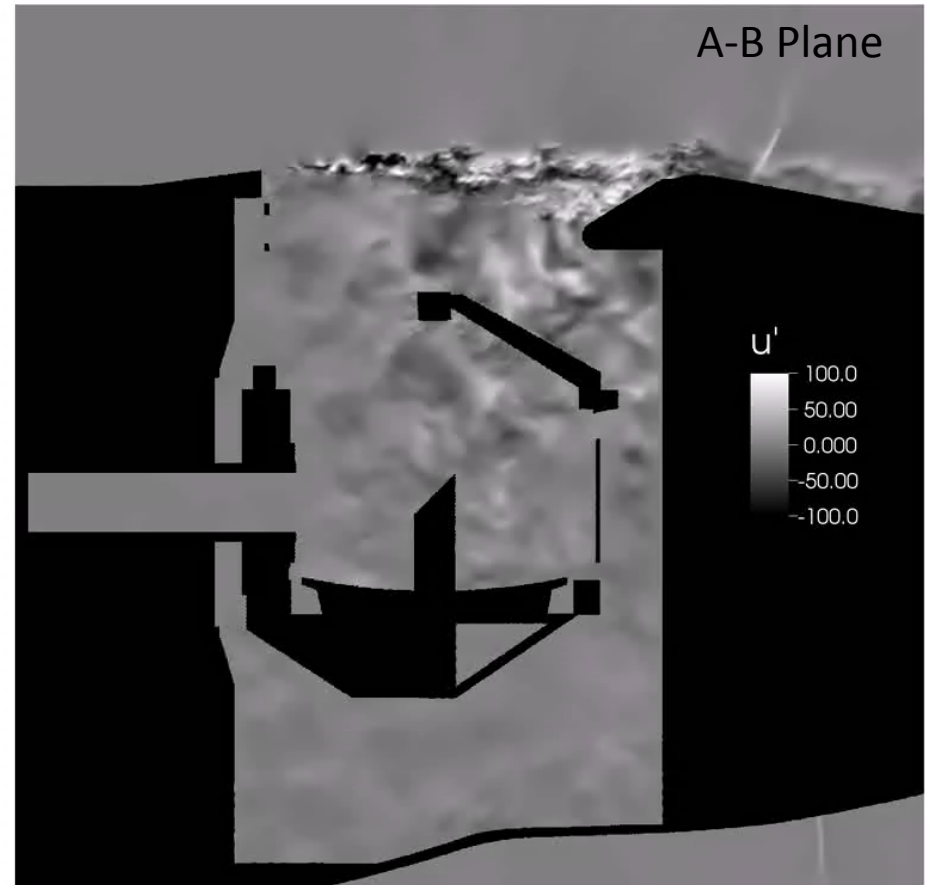
# Disturbance Flow Field:

$$p'(t, x) = p(t, x) - \bar{p}(x)$$

$$u'(t, x) = u(t, x) - \bar{u}(x)$$

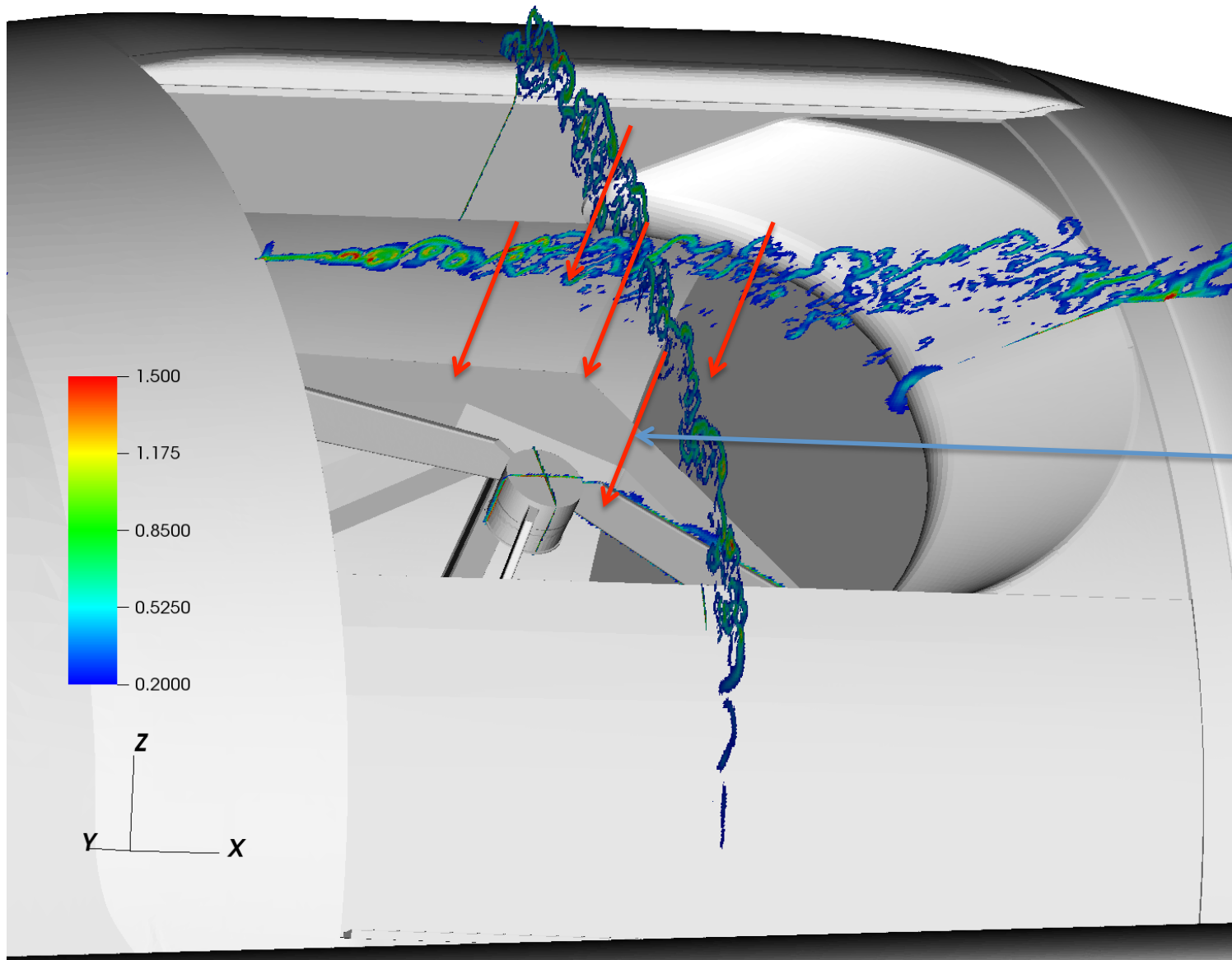


- Acoustic radiation away from shear layer
- Unsteady pressure field inside cavity
- Interacting pressure field and shock



- Small scale velocity fluctuations
- Impingement of shear layer on vehicle
- Momentum transfer into cavity

# Instantaneous $|\text{Grad}(\text{Density})|$

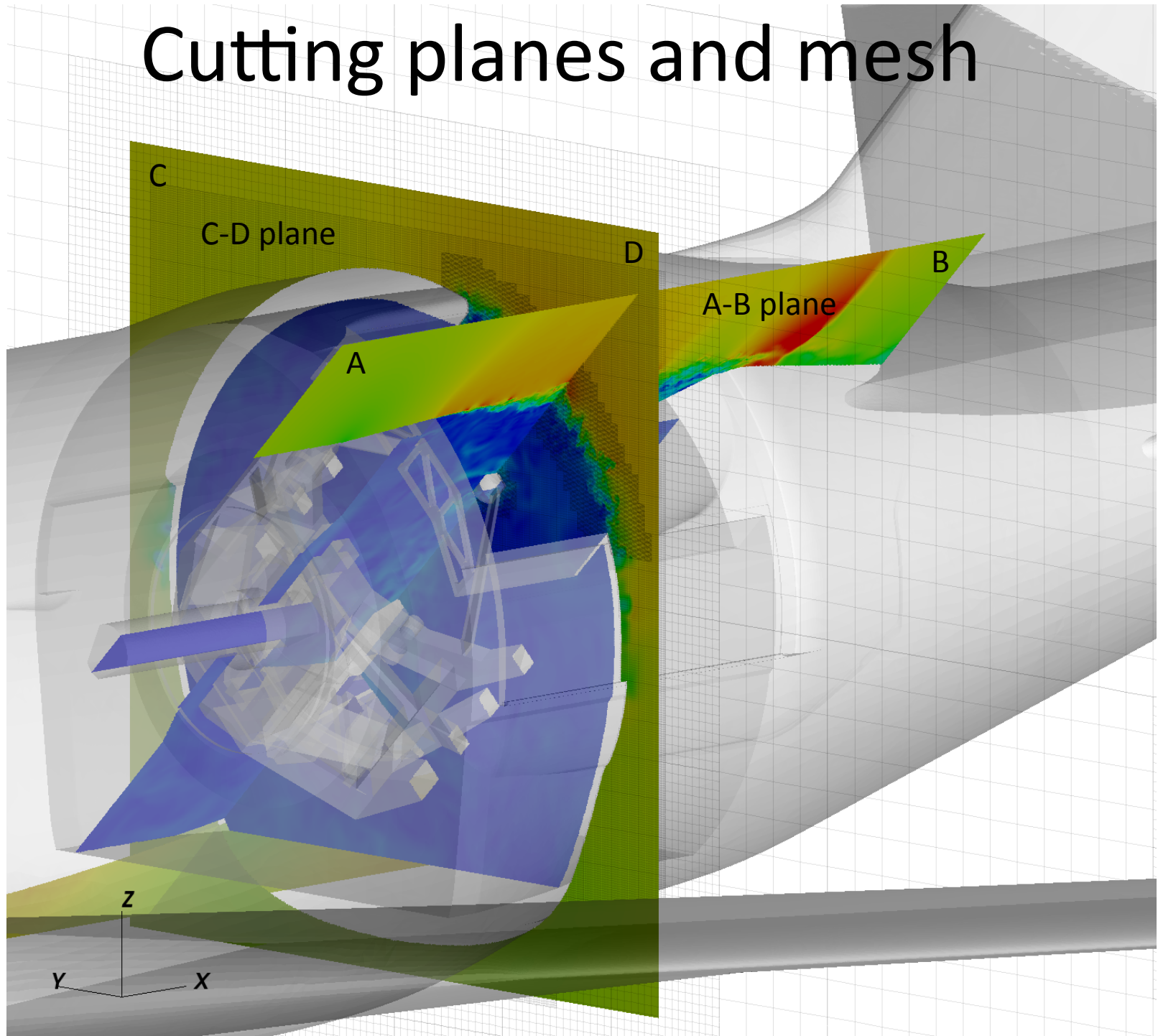


Telescope line-of-sight (indicated by **red arrows**) crosses significant density gradients (i.e. variations in refractive index)

# Outline

- Background/Motivation
- LAVA Solver
- SOFIA Simulation Setup
- General Flow Features
- **Spectral Analysis**
- Proper Orthogonal Decomposition Analysis
- Conclusions

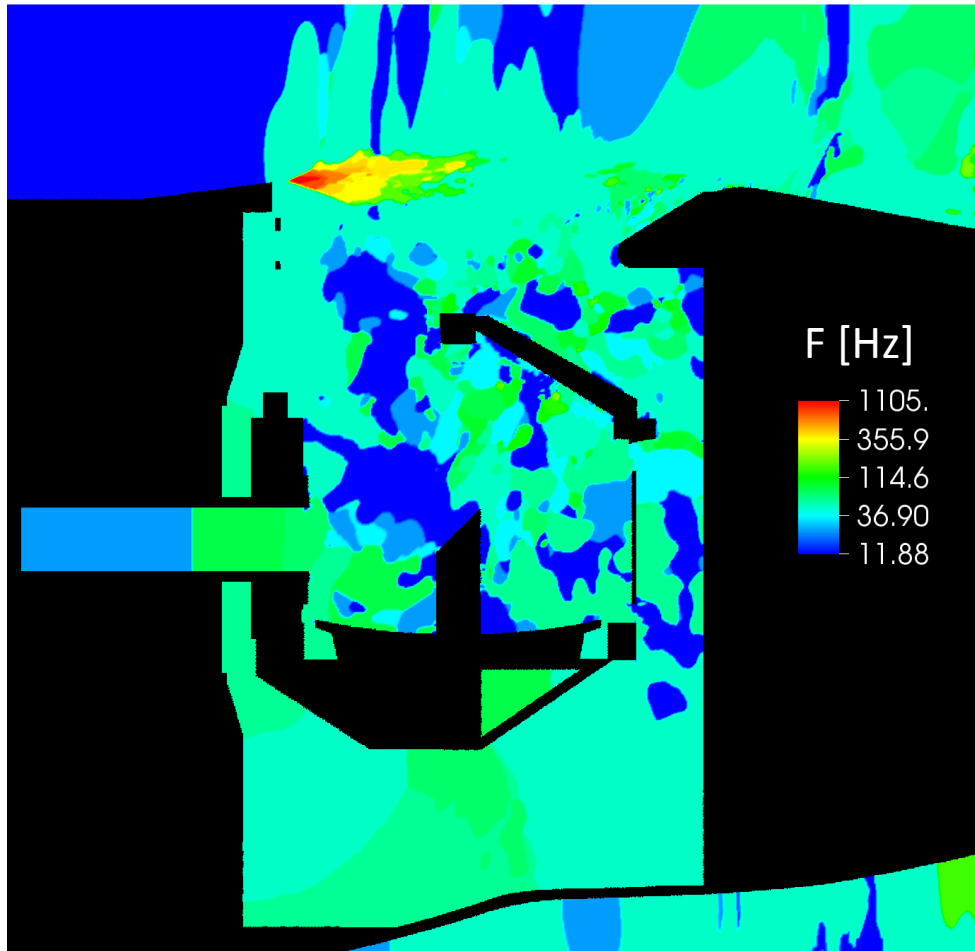
# Cutting planes and mesh



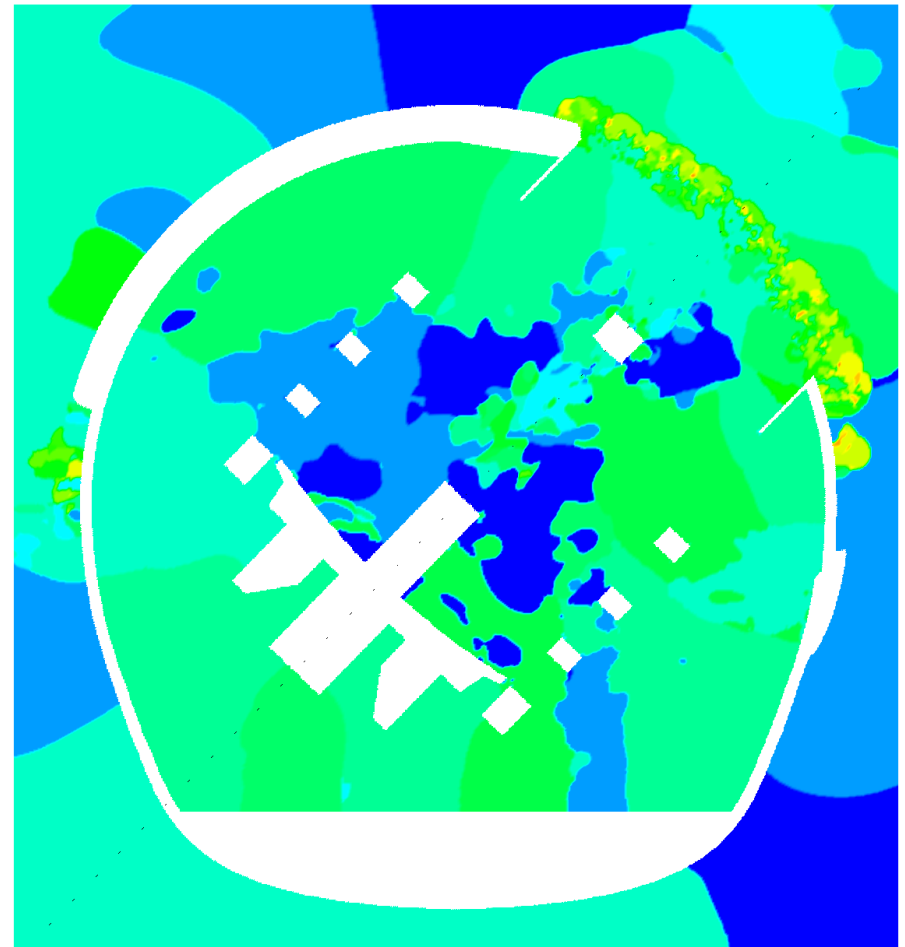


# Spectral Analysis: Frequency at Peak Amplitude [Hz]

A-B Plane

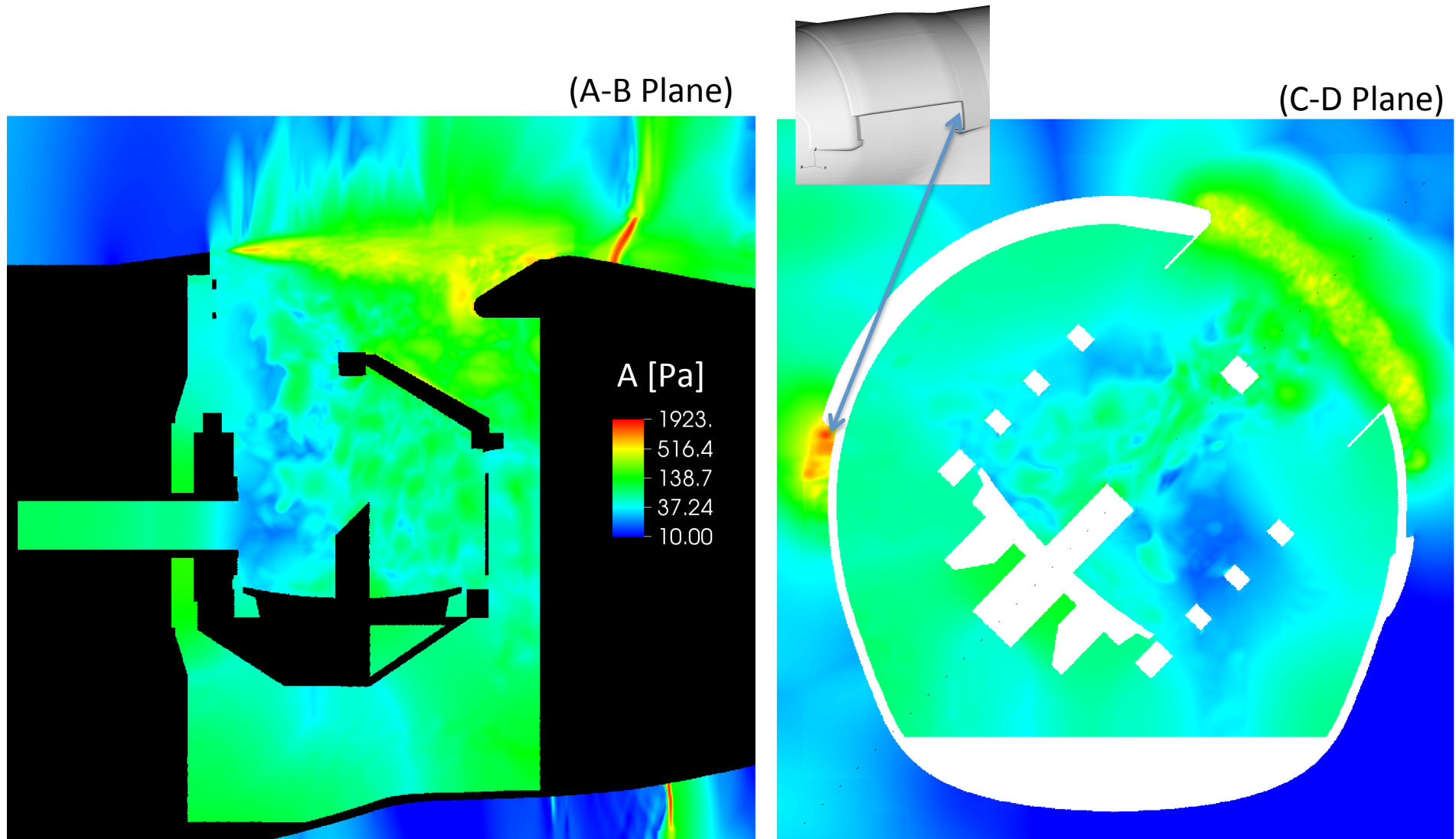


C-D Plane



High frequencies at shear layer inception associated to KH-instability. Nearly uniform low peak frequency observed everywhere inside cavity.

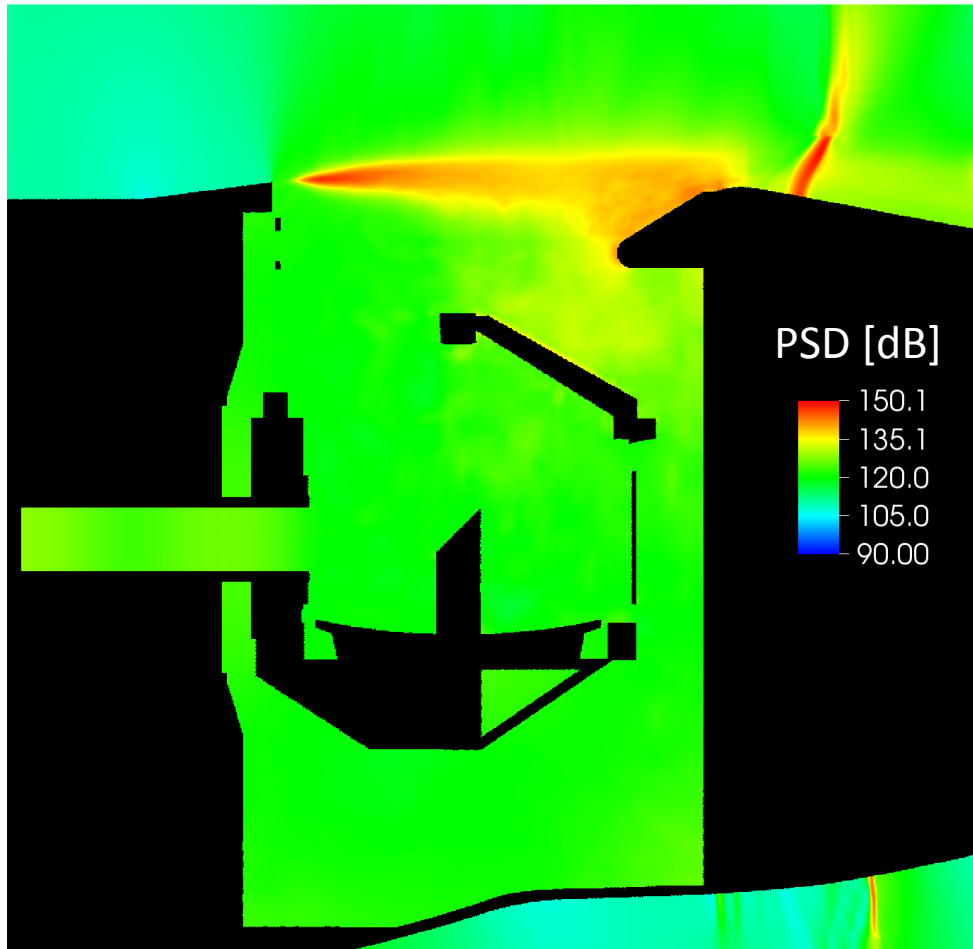
# Spectral Analysis: Peak Amplitude



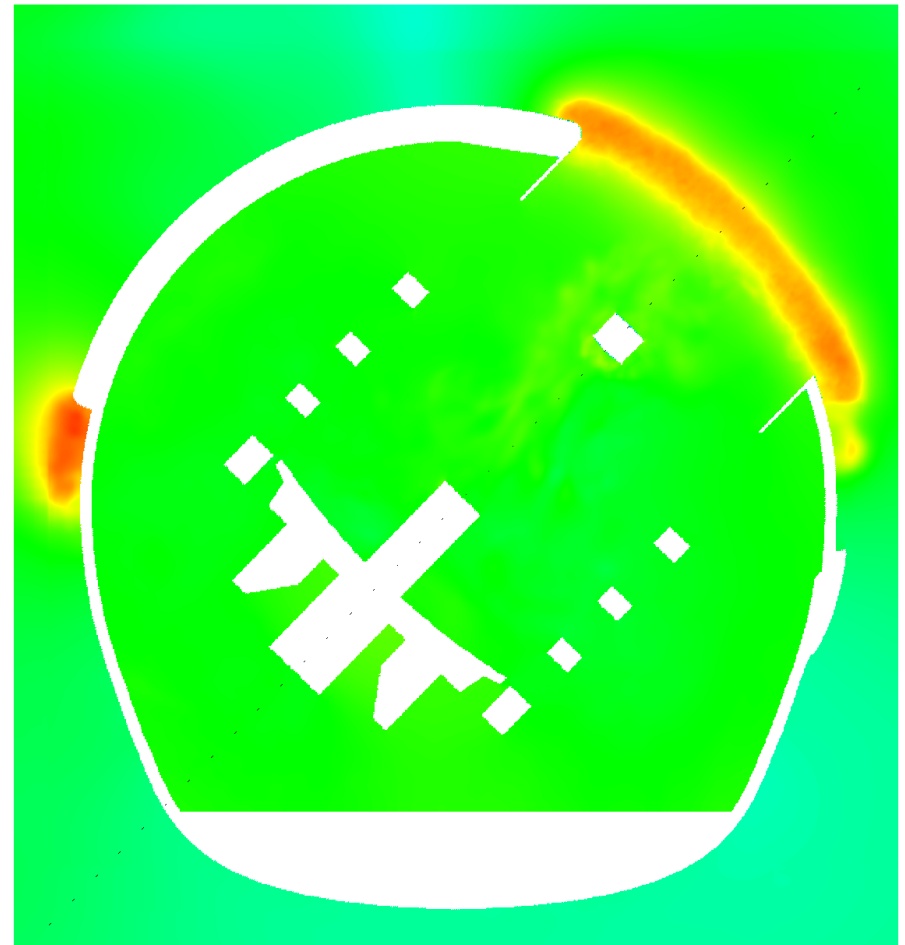
Highest peak amplitude at shocks and in shear layer region. Moderate peak amplitude in cavity. Further analysis elaborates on particular frequency characteristics, i.e., broad vs. narrow band.

# Spectral Analysis: Total PSD [dB]

A-B Plane

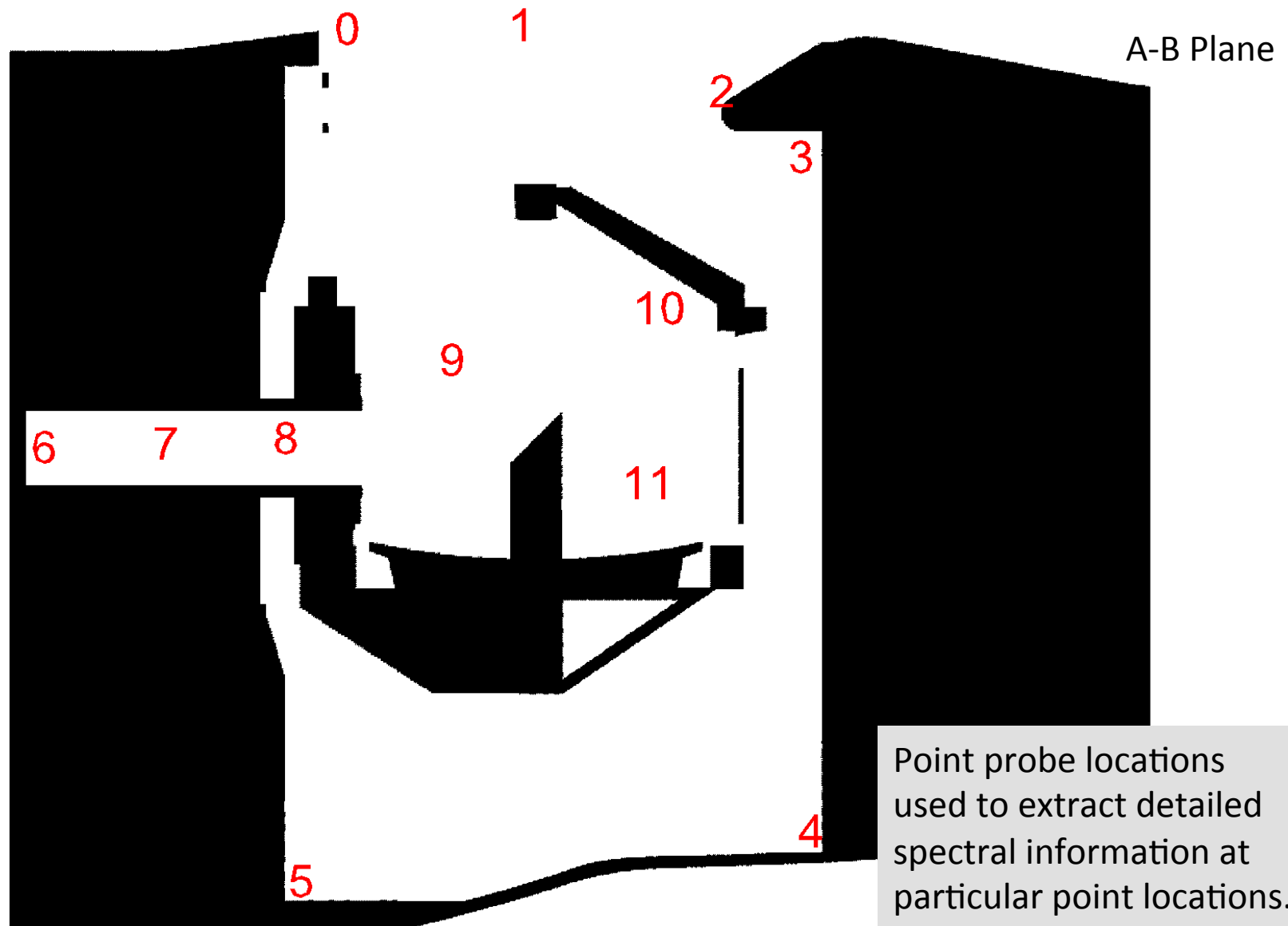


C-D Plane



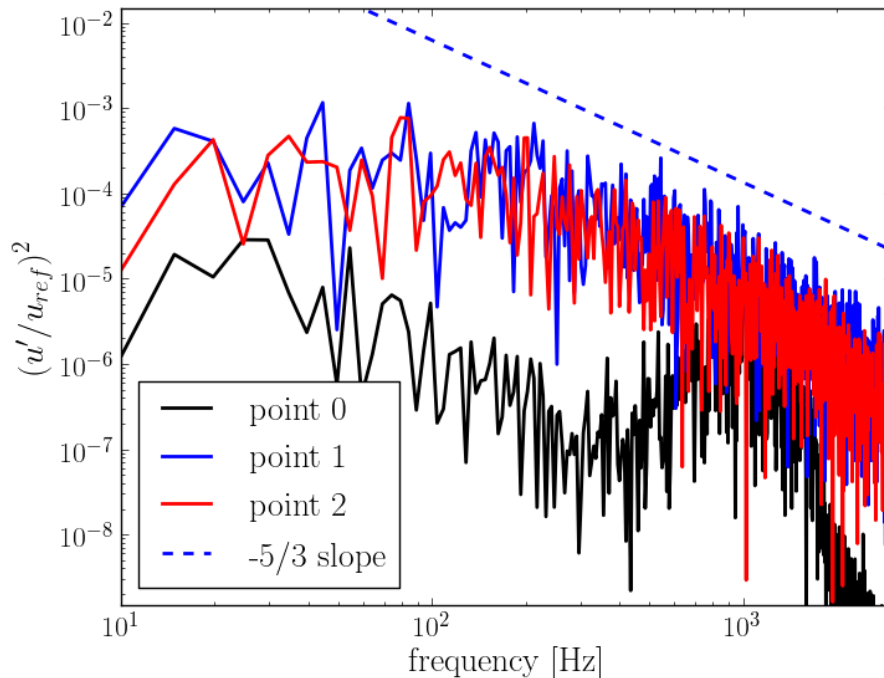
Total PSD provides information about noise level and was compared to **observations during flight inside the cavity** were at the **~120dB** level.

# Spectral Analysis: Point Probe Locations

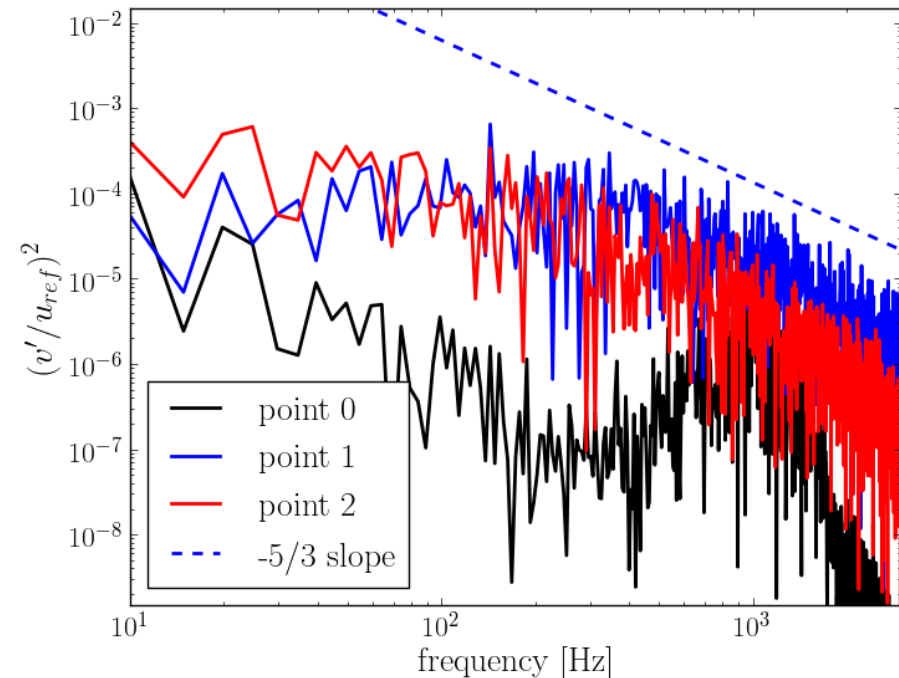


# Velocity Power Spectra

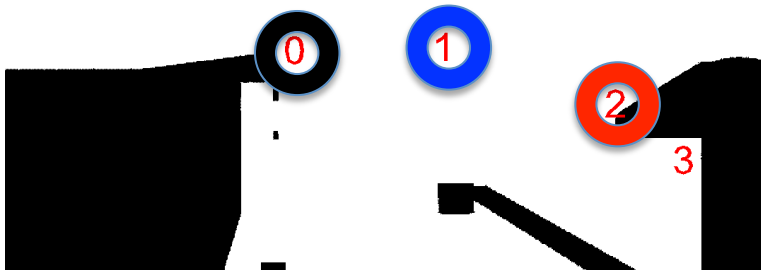
Streamwise ( $u'$ )



“Spanwise” ( $v'$ )



Point Locations

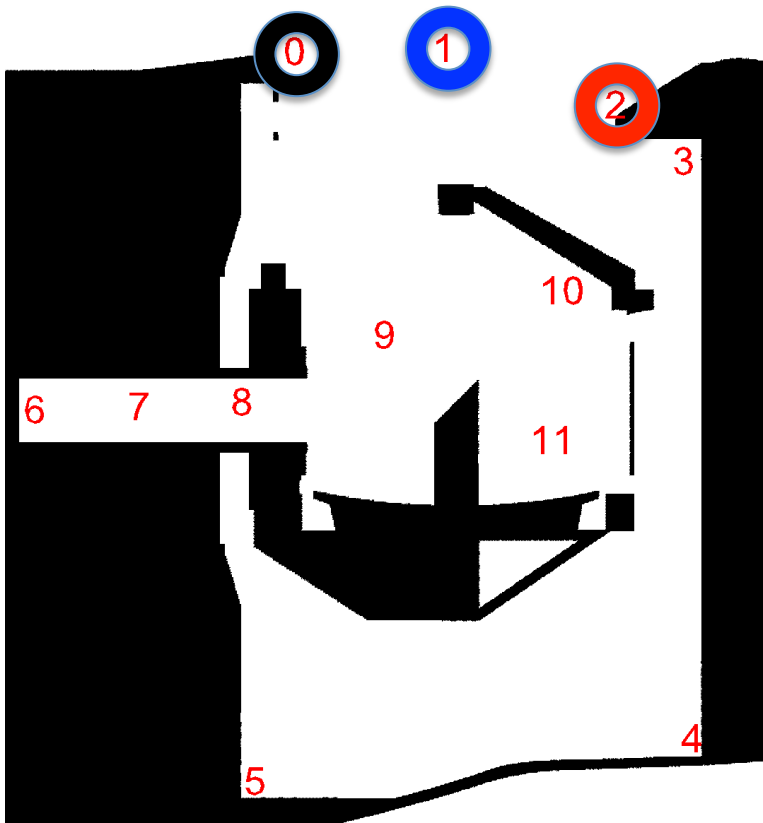


Power spectra at point 0 displays high frequency band related to shear layer instability ( $\sim 1000\text{Hz}$ ). Further downstream broadening of spectrum and increase in amplitude. Theoretical sub-inertial scaling law indicated. Further analysis of turbulent statistics may provide further insight.

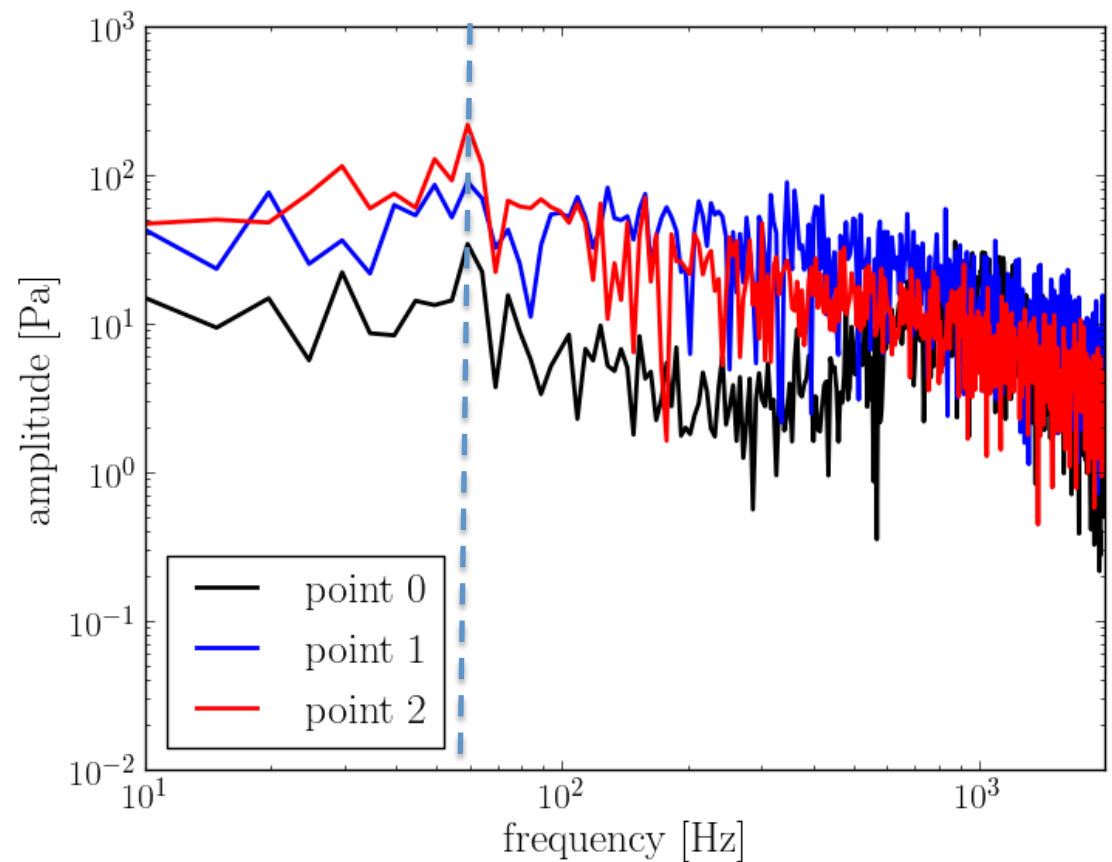


# Spectral Analysis: Probes

Pressure field displays frequency peak at shear layer surface impingement (point 2) in 50-60 Hz range.

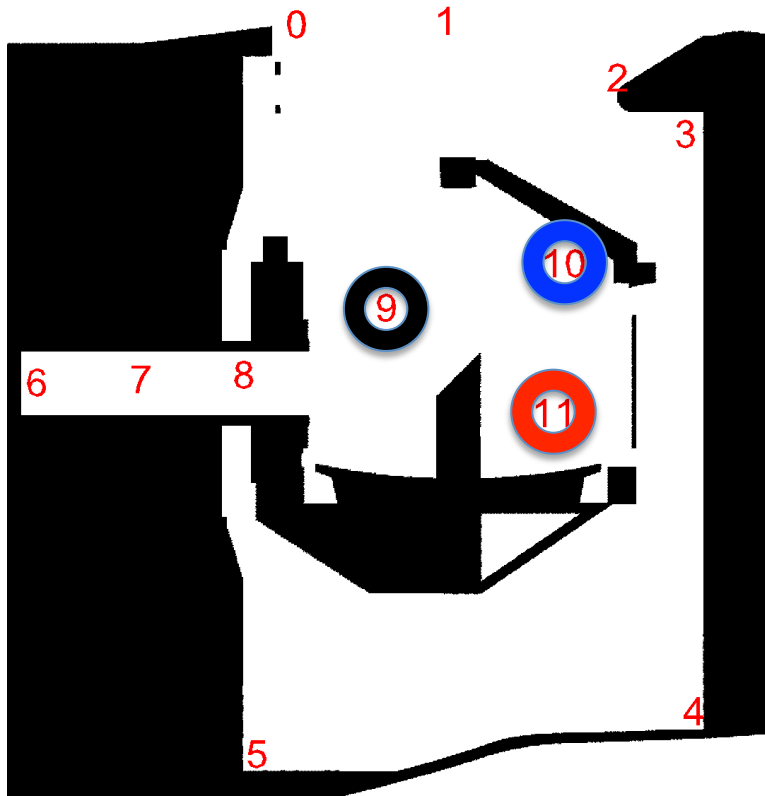


A-B Plane

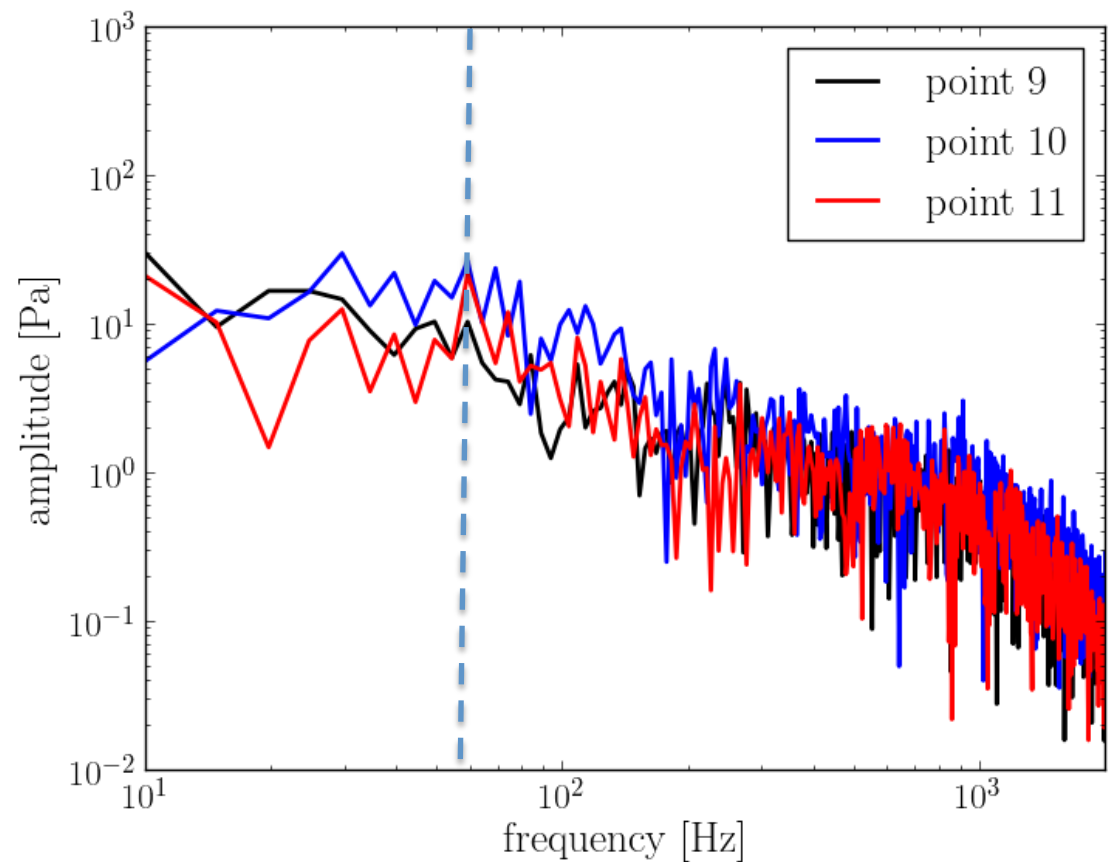


# Spectral Analysis: Probes

Frequency peak at point 2 can also be observed at points 10 and 11.  
Broadband noise level associated with highly unsteady shear layer.

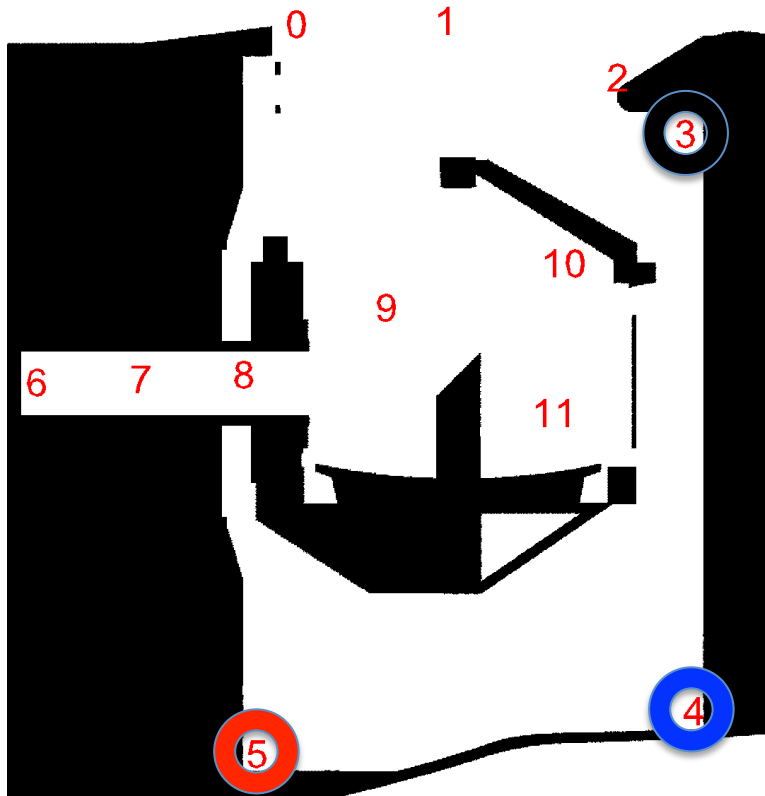


A-B Plane

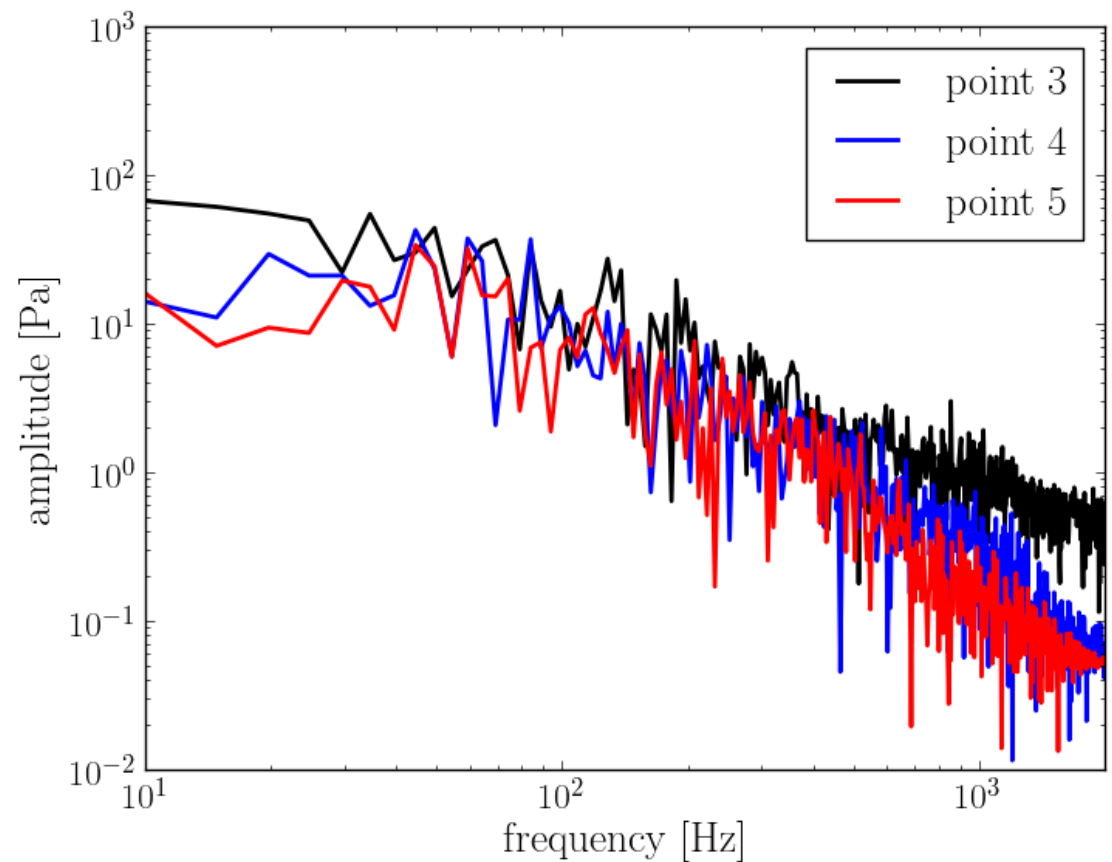


# Spectral Analysis: Probes

Corner points display elevated amplitudes in frequency range 20-100Hz. Increased broadband noise at point 3 associated with shear layer proximity.

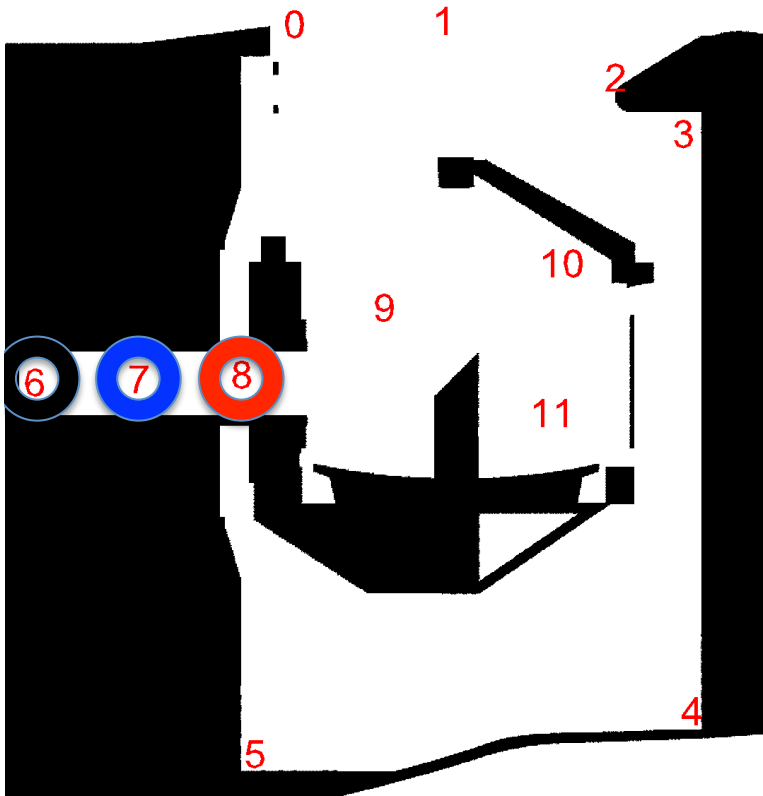


A-B Plane

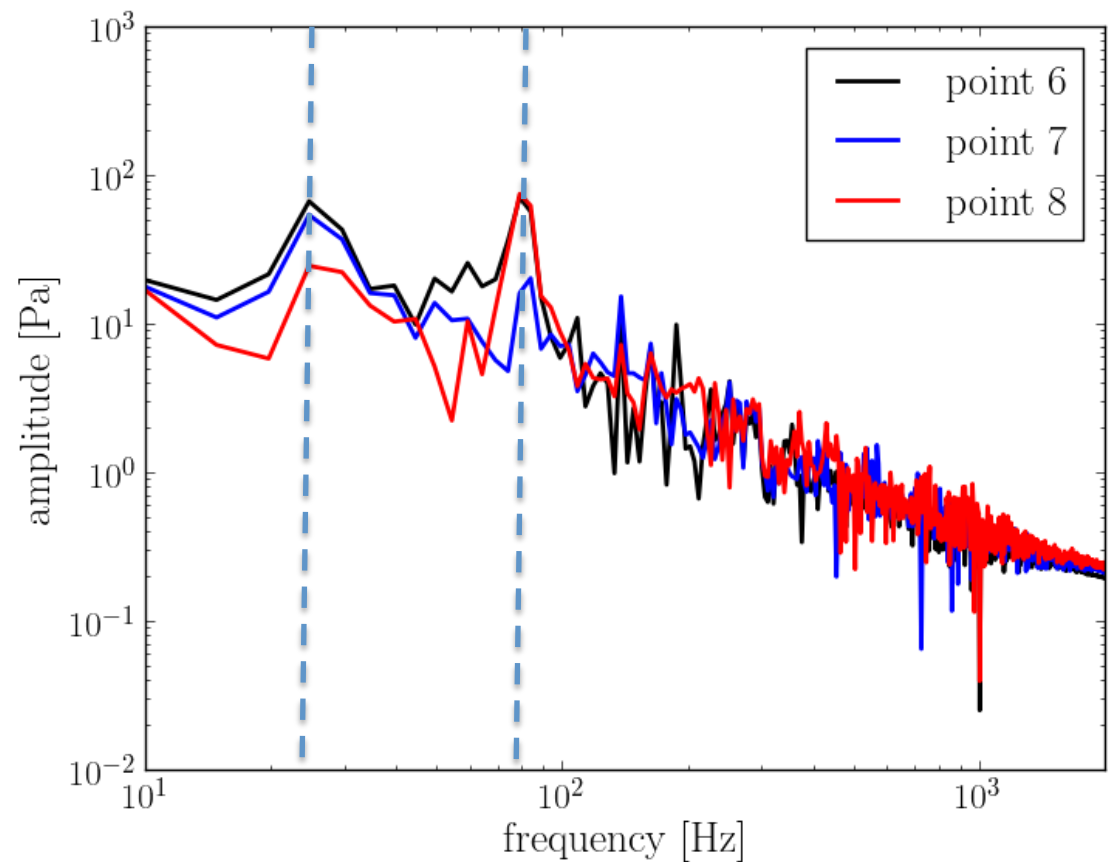


# Spectral Analysis: Probes

Low frequency peaks (25 and 78Hz) at points 6-8 are related to standing waves inside observation tube.

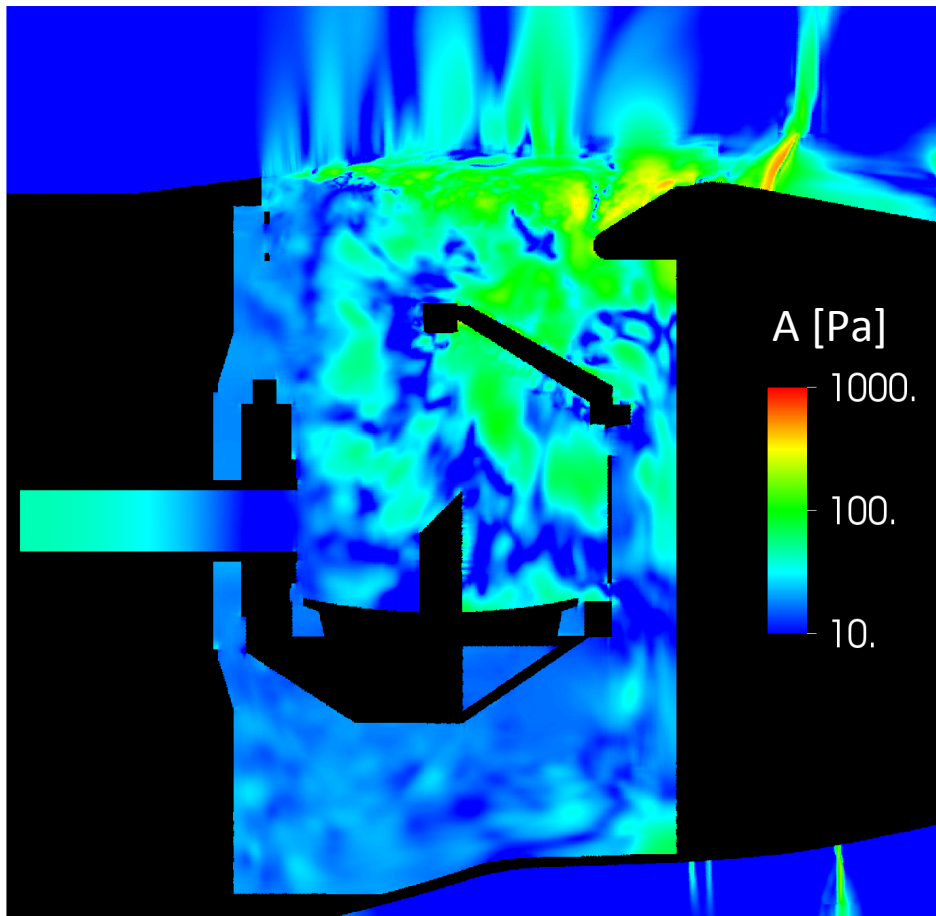


A-B Plane

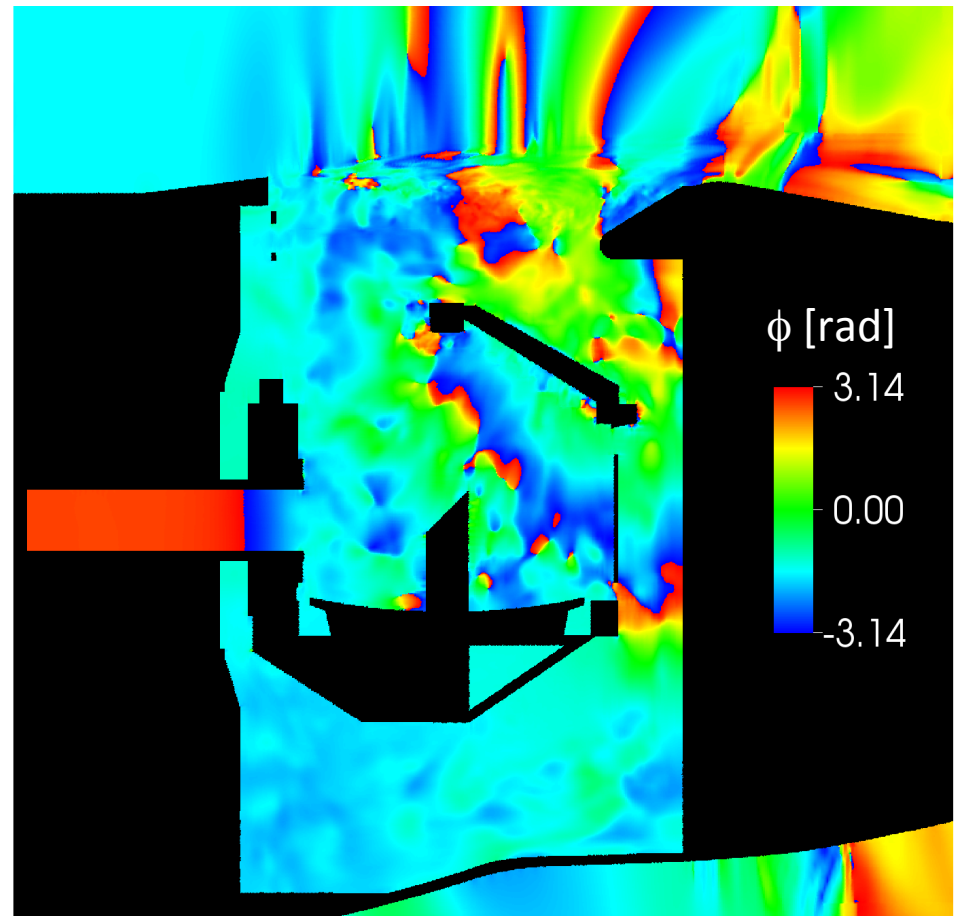


# Spectral Analysis at 19.6 Hz

Amplitude [Pa]



Phase



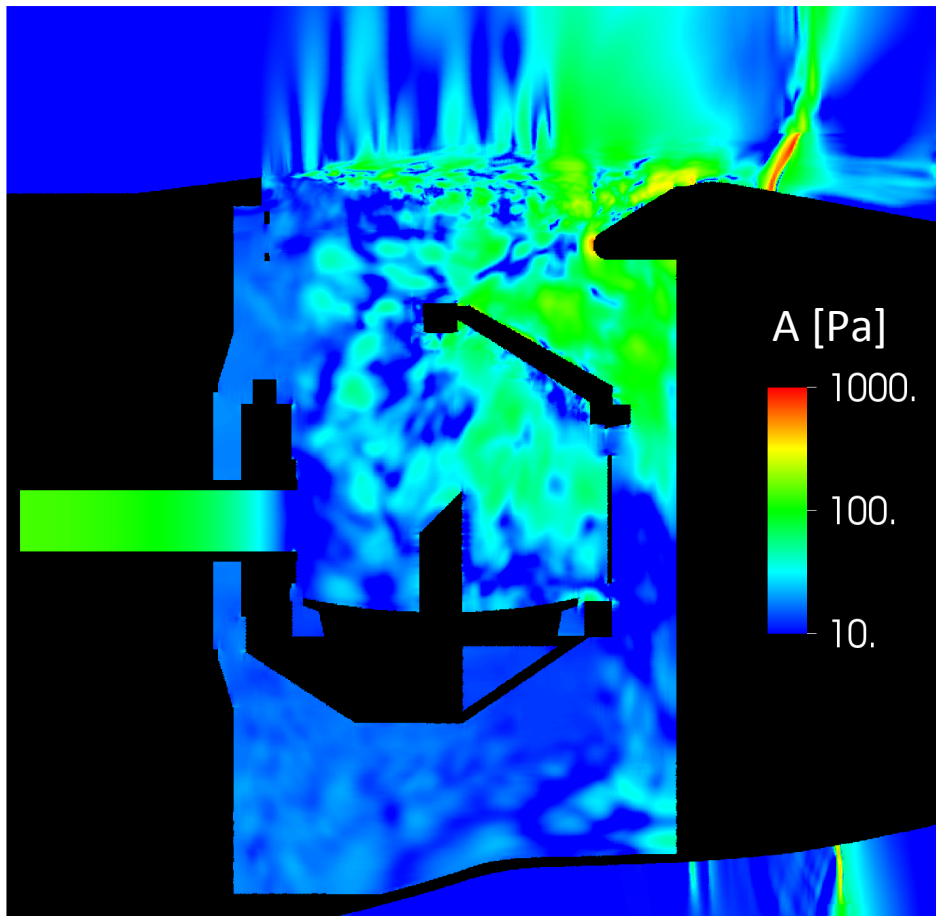
A-B Plane

Low frequency mode with phase  $\phi=\pi$  is dominant inside observation tube.  
No real wave patterns can be observed in phase plot due to large wavelength.

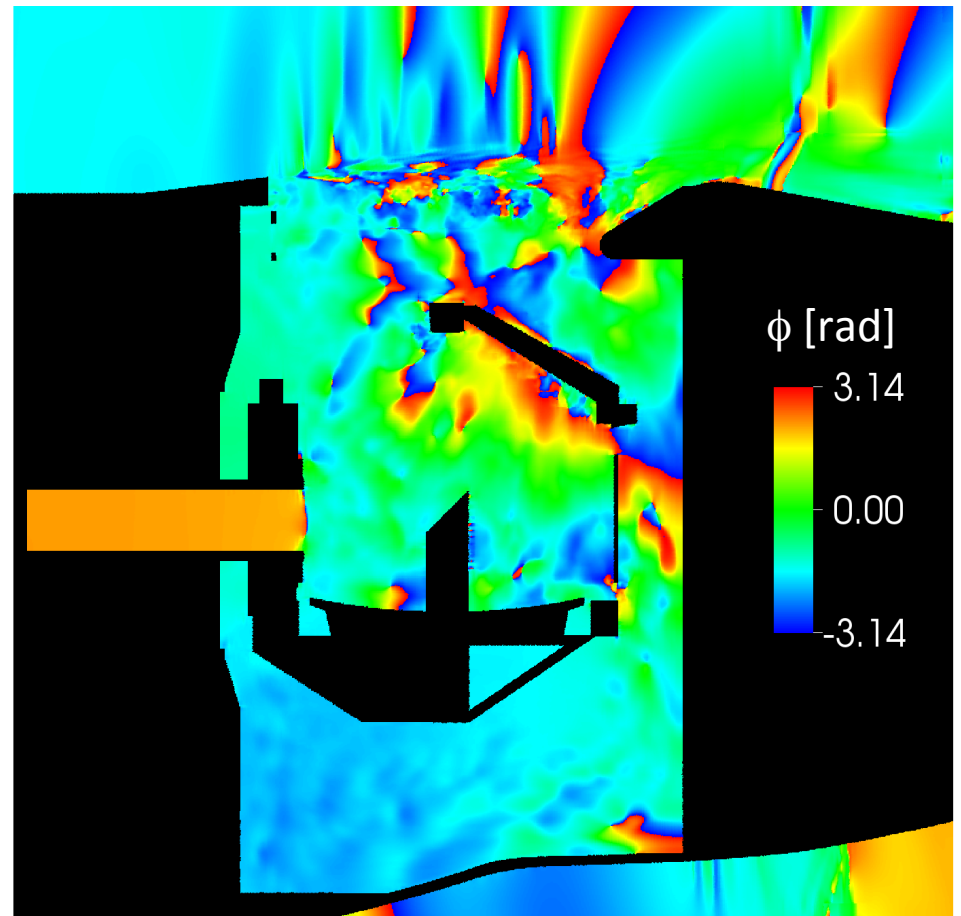


# Spectral Analysis at 24.5 Hz

Amplitude [Pa]



Phase

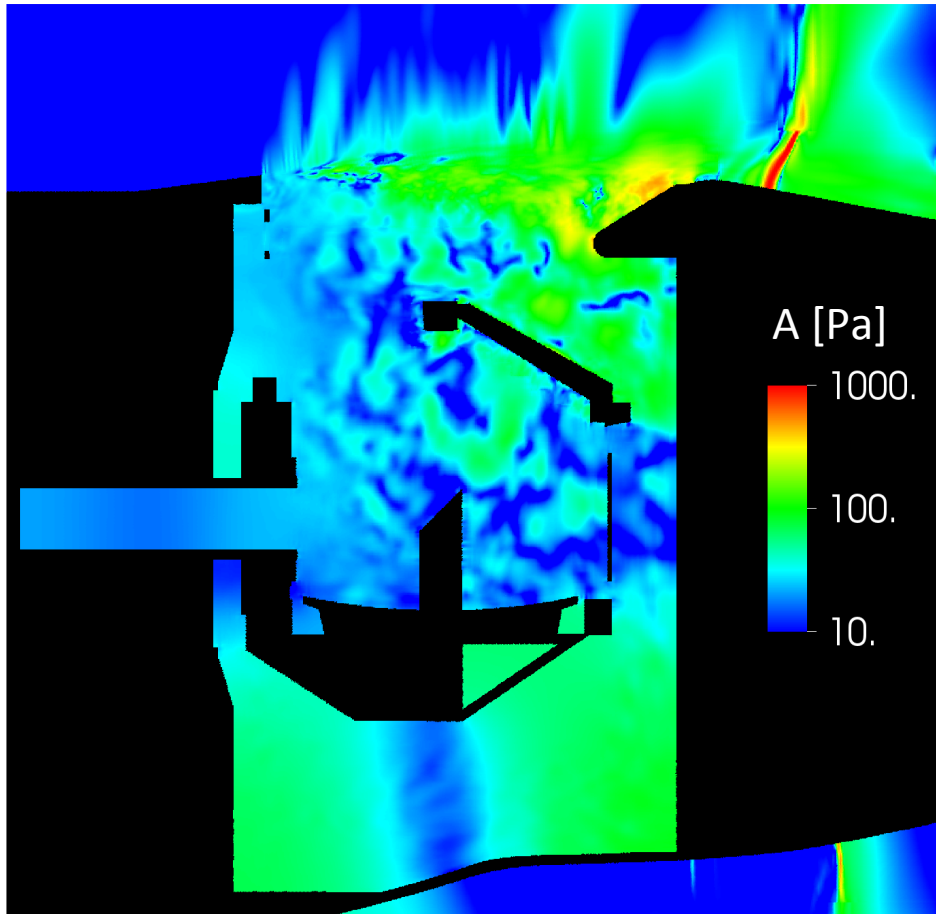


A-B Plane

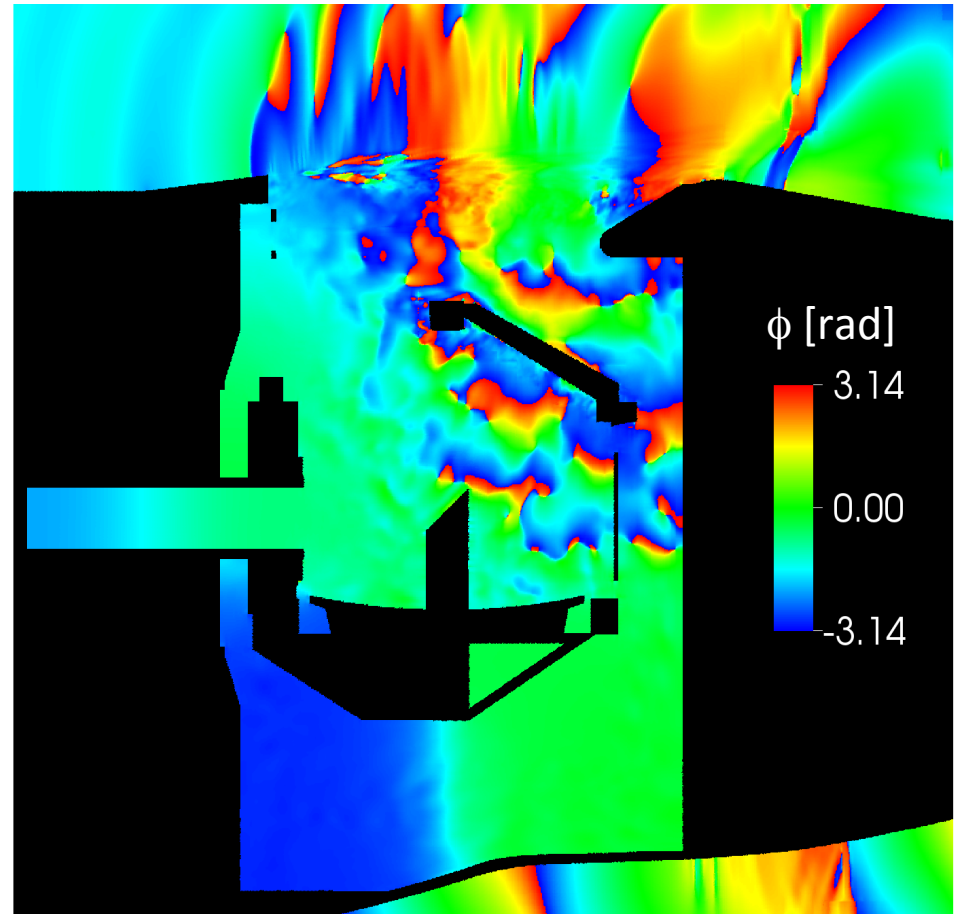
Similar observations as previous slide.  
Frequency seems tuned to length of observation tube.

# Spectral Analysis at 44.1 Hz

Amplitude [Pa]



Phase

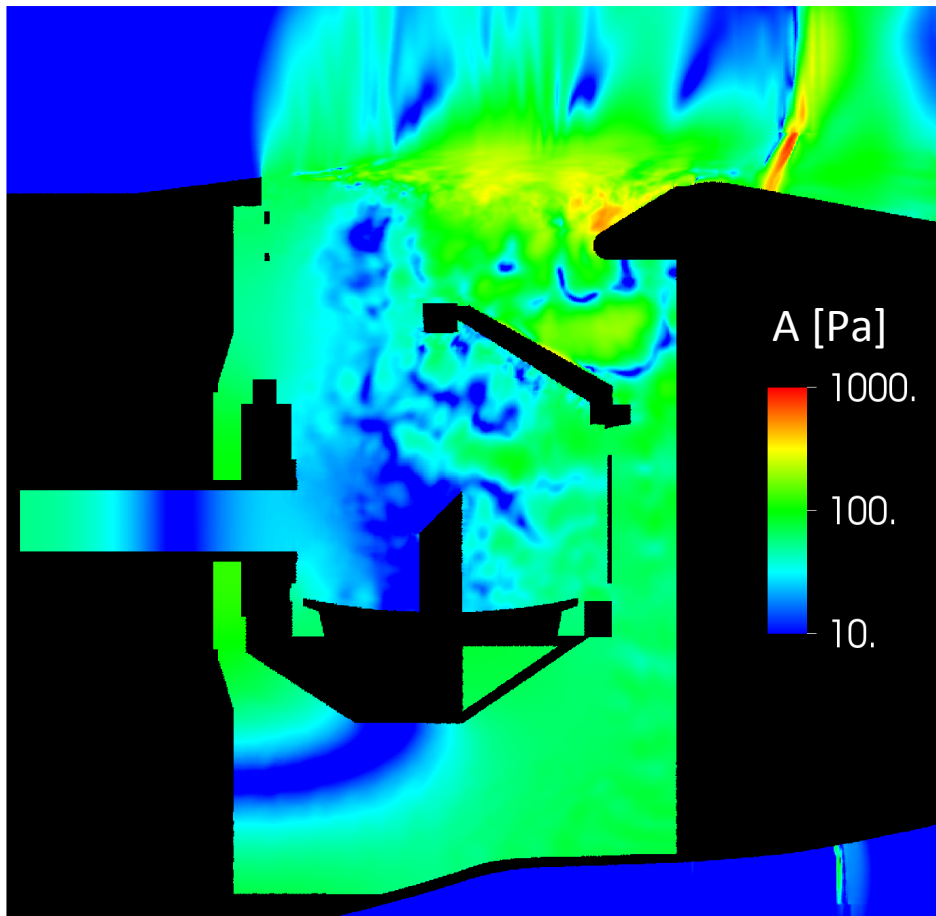


A-B Plane

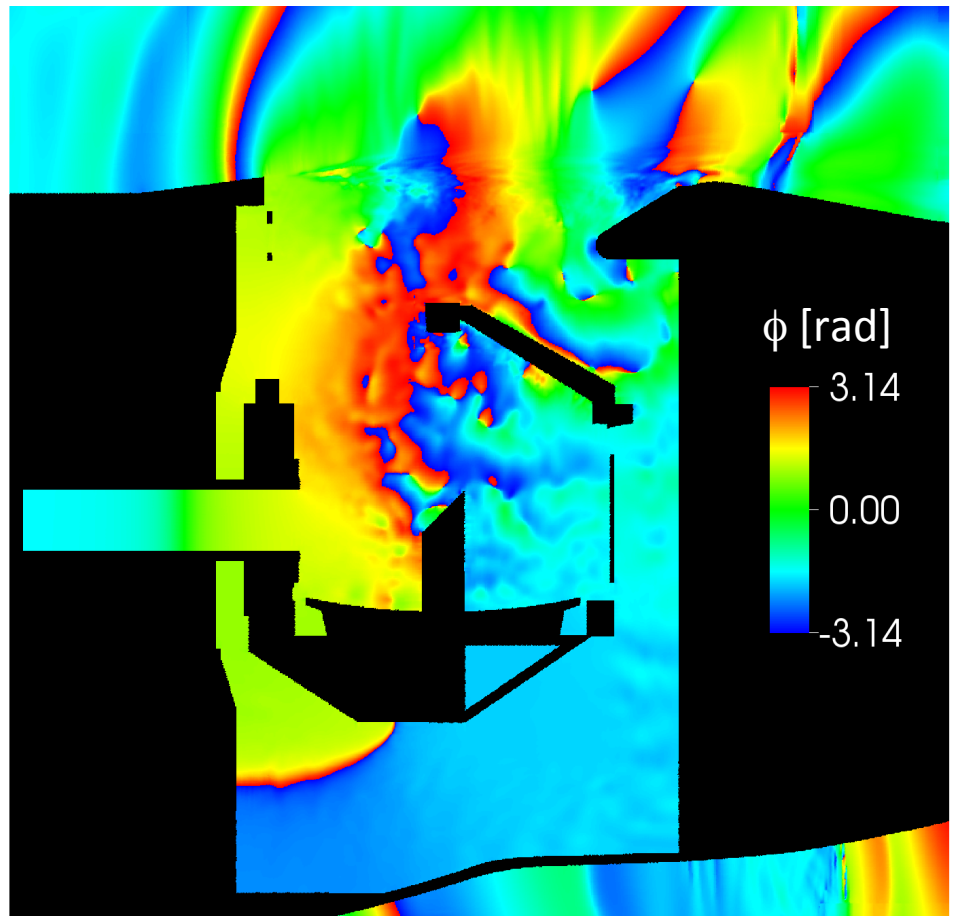
Cavity mode: high amplitudes and phase shift from left to right below telescope. Pressure wave radiation away from impingement region. Could induce structural vibrations.

# Spectral Analysis at 58.4 Hz

Amplitude [Pa]



Phase

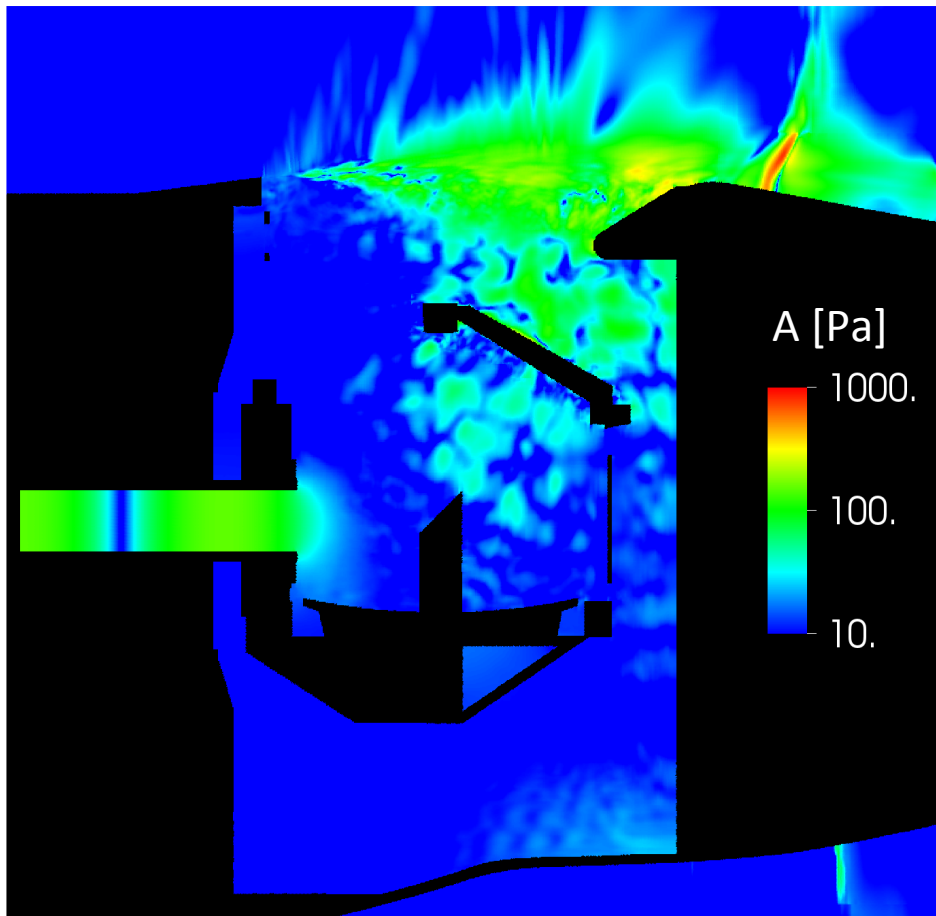


A-B Plane

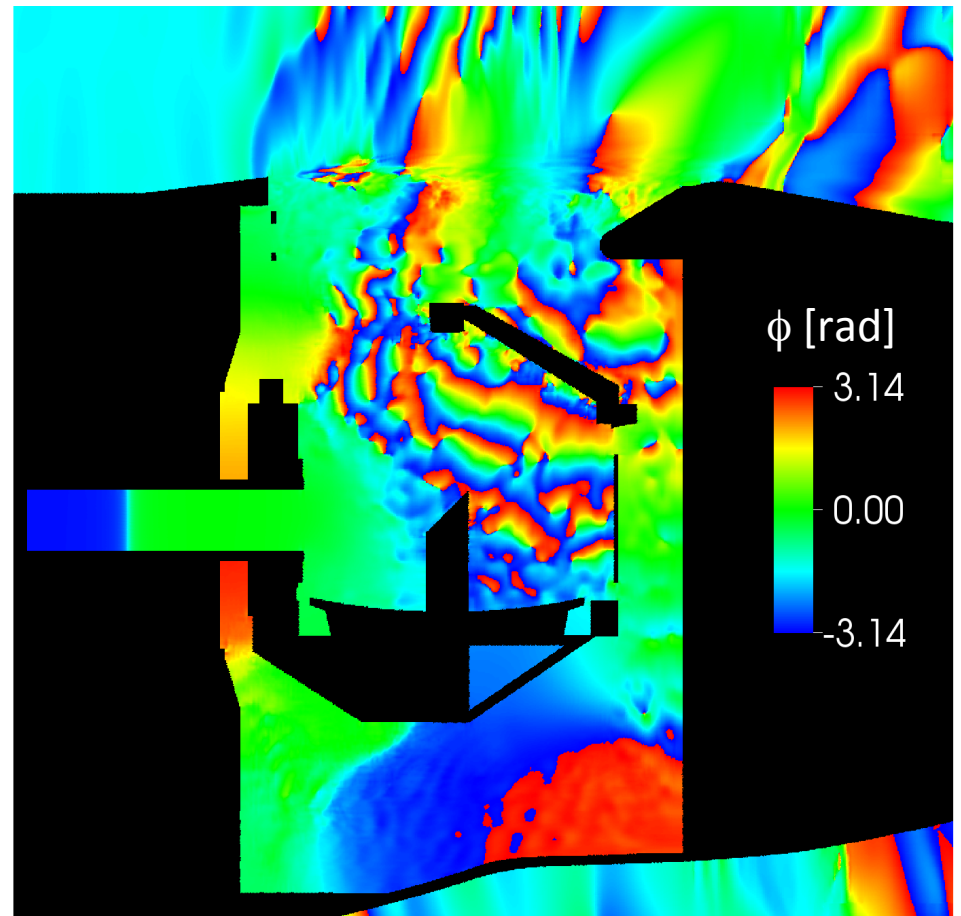
High amplitude inside cavity suggests presence of cavity mode at this frequency.  
Mode shape cannot be clearly distinguished from phase plot (cross vehicle coupling possible)

# Spectral Analysis at 78.4 Hz

Amplitude [Pa]



Phase

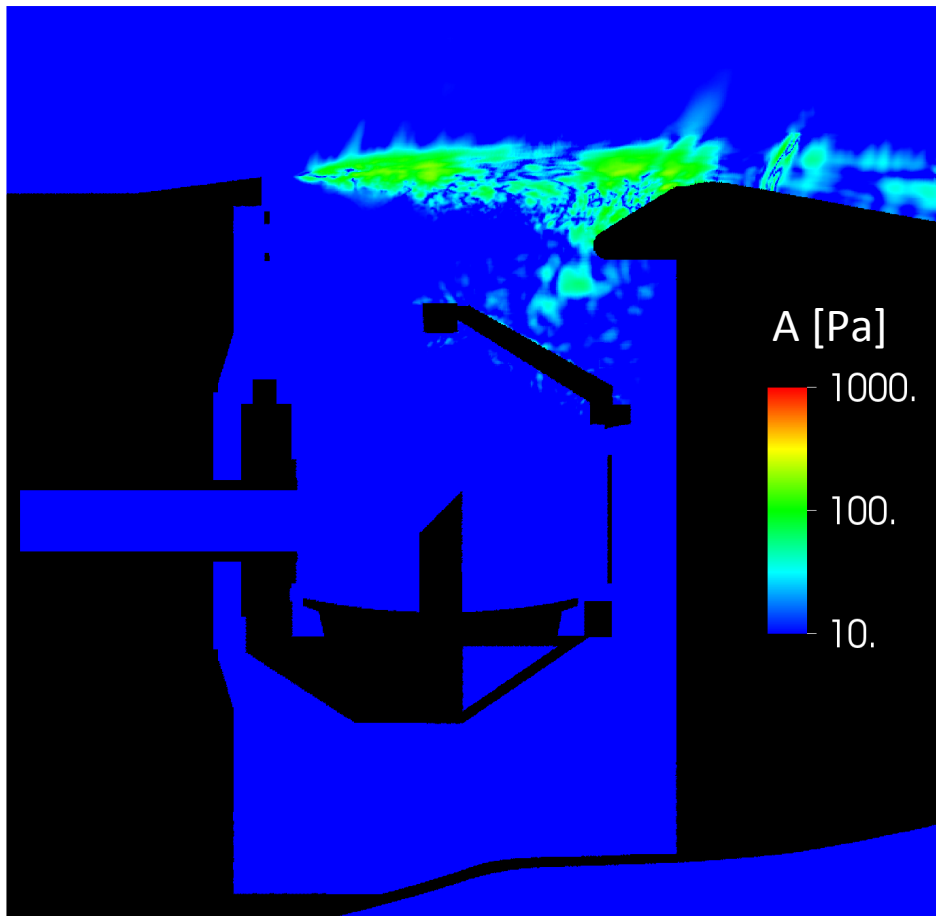


A-B Plane

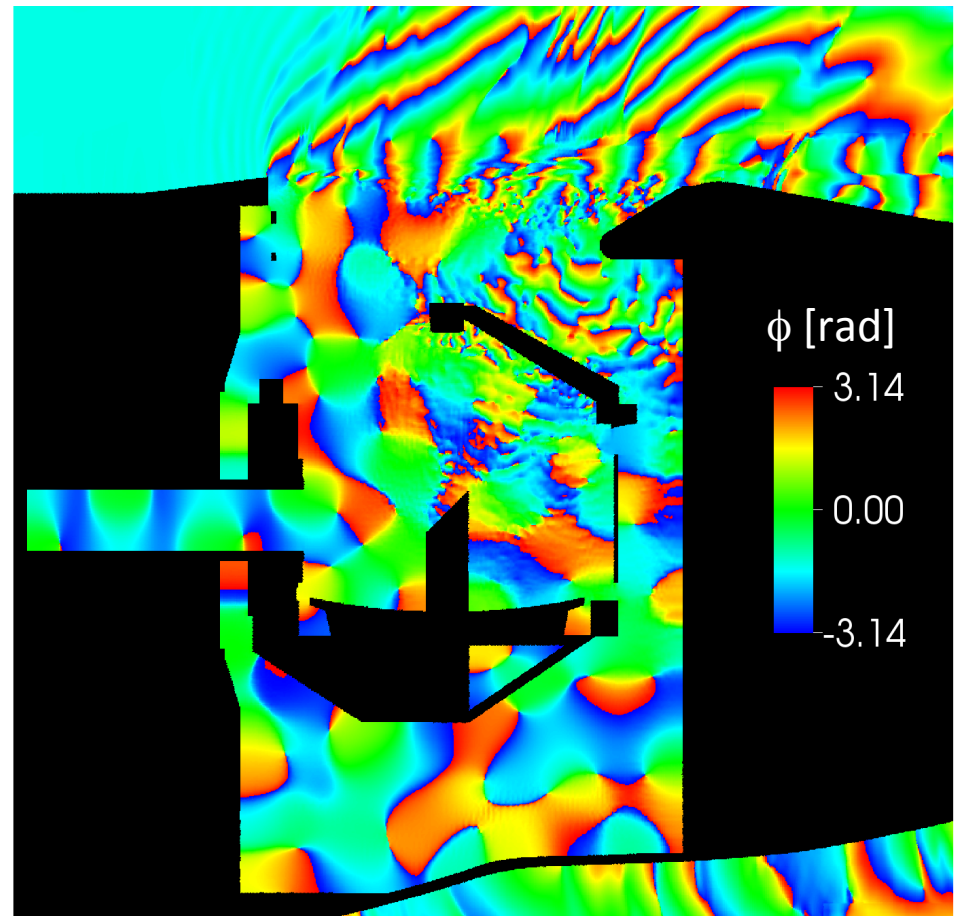
Low amplitudes inside cavity. Phase plot suggests pressure wave propagation from impingement region and/or possible vortex shedding from upper telescope arm.

# Spectral Analysis at 342 Hz

Amplitude [Pa]



Phase



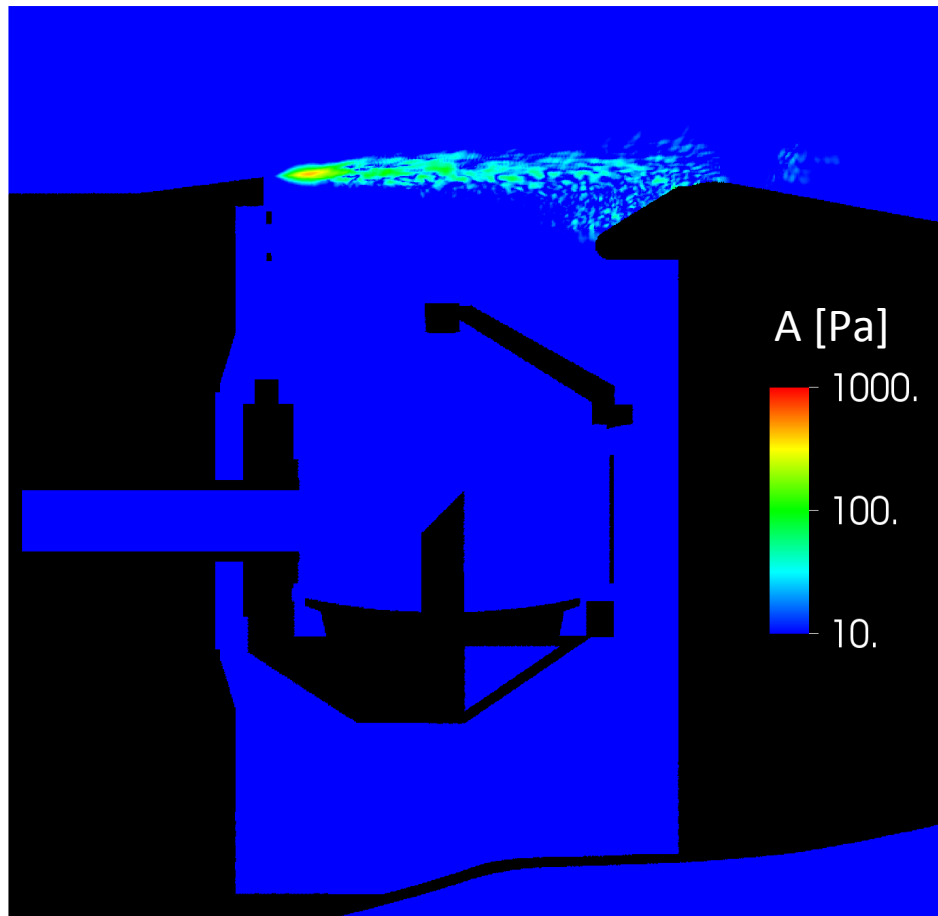
A-B Plane

High amplitudes inside shear layer. Acoustic radiation away from shear layer. Complicated wave phase pattern inside cavity due to reflecting low amplitude acoustic waves.



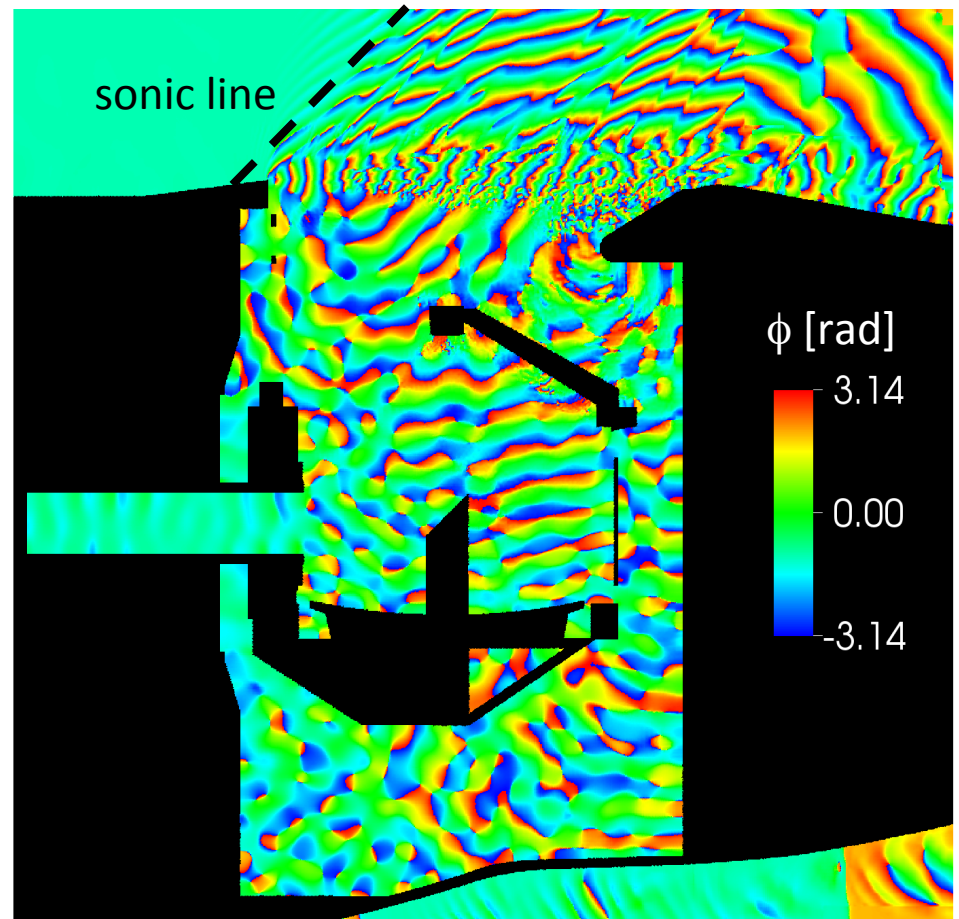
# Spectral Analysis at 1004 Hz

Amplitude [Pa]



Phase

A-B Plane



High amplitudes inside shear layer related to KH-instability (planar wave fronts in phase plot) with small wavelength. Downstream propagation outside of shear layer.

# Outline

- Background/Motivation
- LAVA Solver
- SOFIA Simulation Setup
- General Flow Features
- Spectral Analysis
- Proper Orthogonal Decomposition Analysis
- Conclusions

# Proper Orthogonal Decomposition

- **POD** results in a decomposition of the flow field into a set of basis functions that capture most of the flow energy as defined by a user-defined norm with the least number of modes\*

$$\vec{q}(\vec{x}, t) \approx \sum_{n=0}^I a^{(n)}(t) \vec{\chi}^{(n)}(\vec{x})$$

- Used snapshot method\*\* in temporal domain
- Vector norm (energy) with

$$|\vec{q}|^2 = \int_V \left( \sum_{k=1}^{N_q} \omega_k q_k q_k \right) d\vec{x}$$

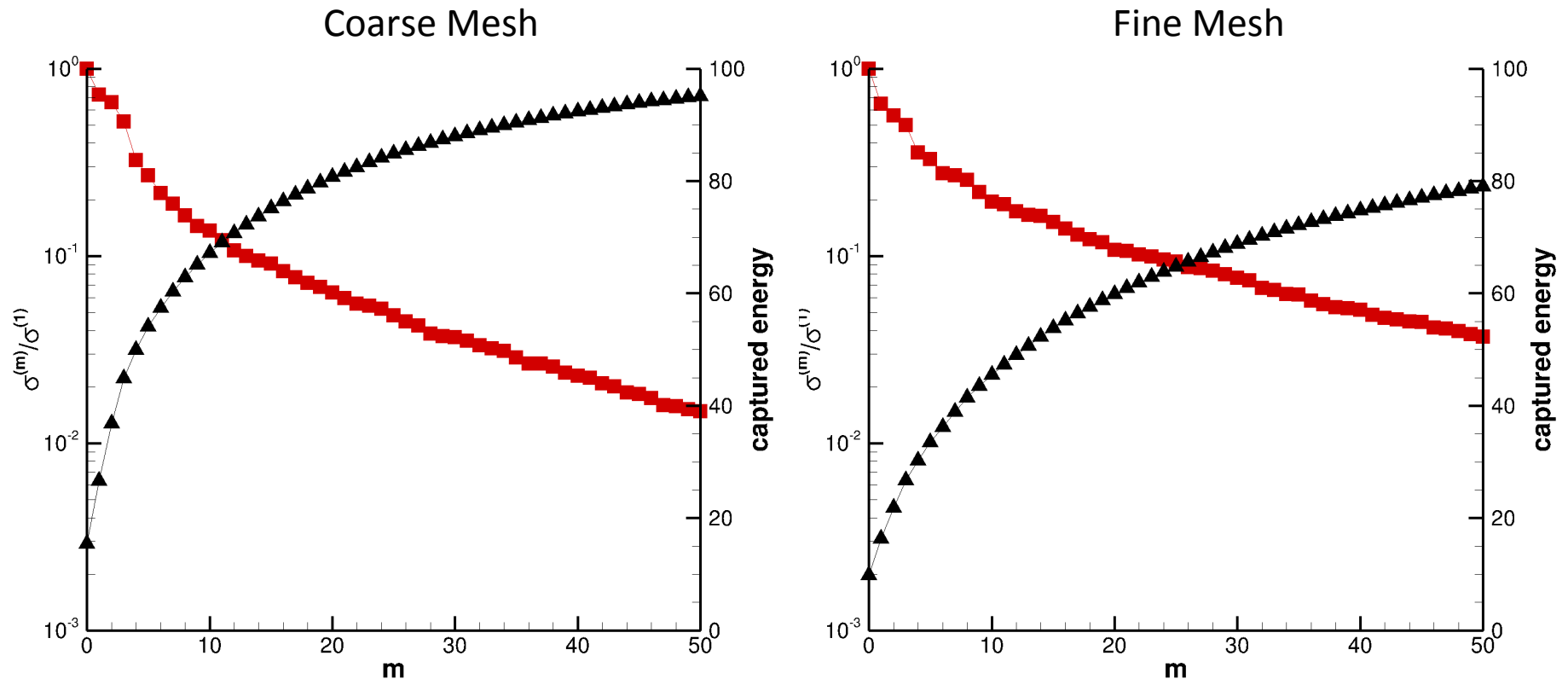
$$q_k = [p, u, v, w, T^{0.5}] \text{ and } \omega_k = [1, 0, 0, 0, 0]$$

\*Rowley(2001), Freund and Colonius (2002)

\*\*Lumley(1967), Sirovich (1987),  
Chatterje (2004)

\*\*\*Nonomura et al (2011)

# Proper Orthogonal Decomposition

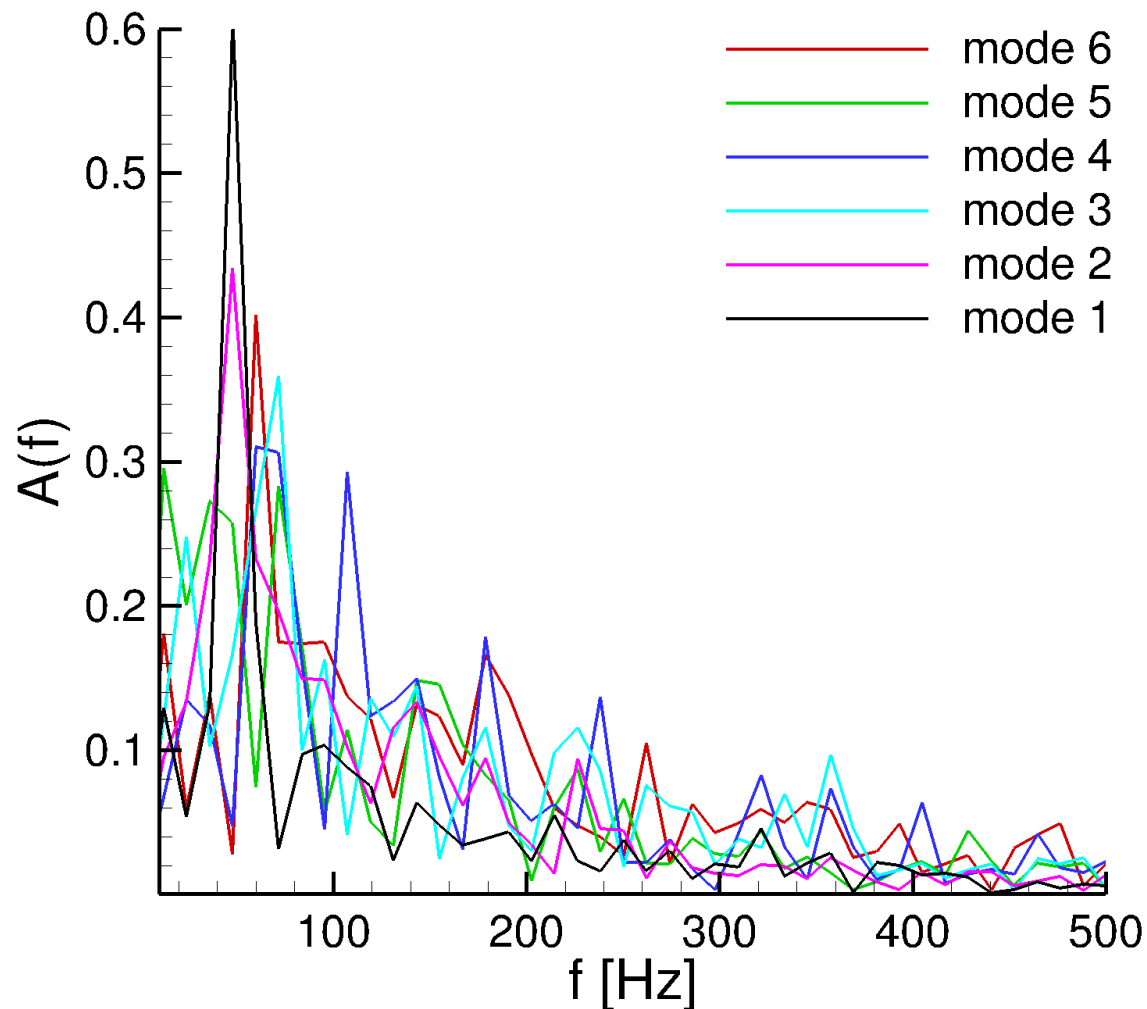


Singular value (red) relates to energy captured by mode (m).

Captured energy (black) = sum of mode energies (m).

Energy more evenly distributed for higher resolution simulation (50 modes capture only 80% of the total energy vs ~95% on coarse mesh) → characteristic for highly turbulent flows

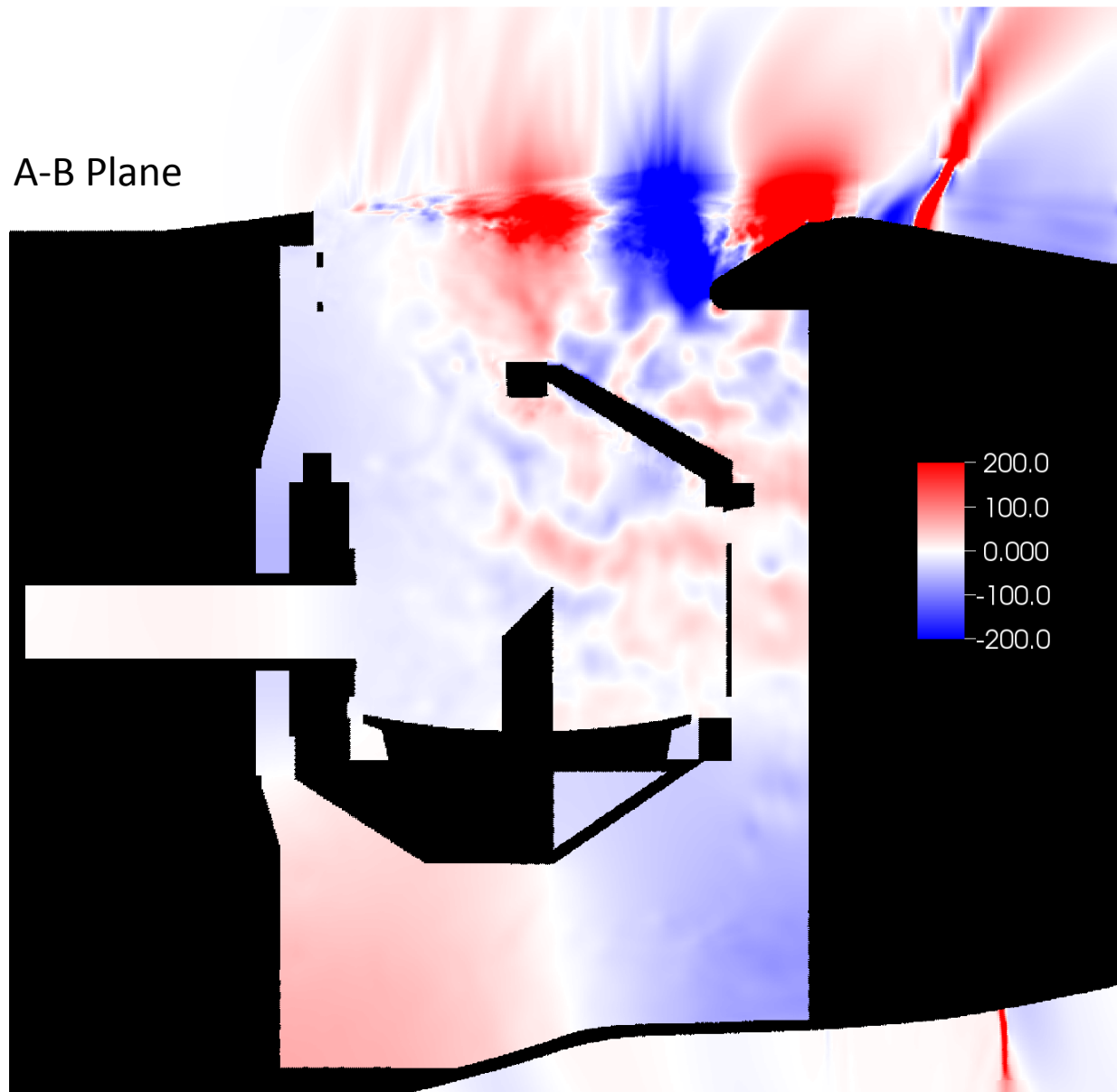
# Proper Orthogonal Decomposition: Time Coefs



POD is able to capture cross frequency coupling (e.g. harmonics in mode 4)  
Spectral characteristics of most energetic POD modes. Mode 1 shows isolated large amplitude for single low frequency. All other top six modes show high peak for low frequency  $< 100$ .



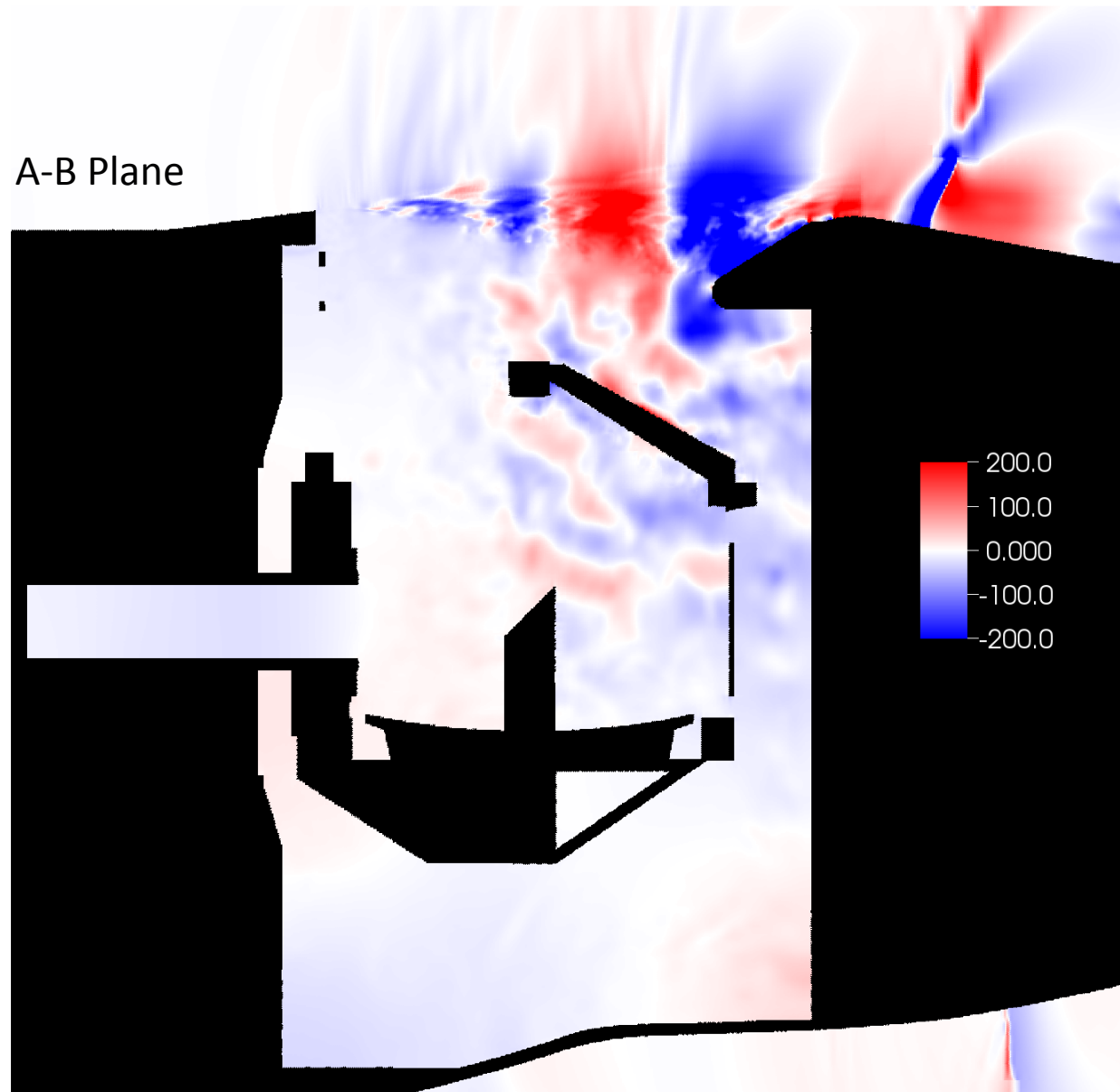
# Proper Orthogonal Decomposition: Mode 1



POD mode shape (red-white-blue color contours) only provides information about spatial distribution of unsteady pressure field. Singular value provides amplitude information (see two slides earlier). Unsteady pressure field can be reconstructed.

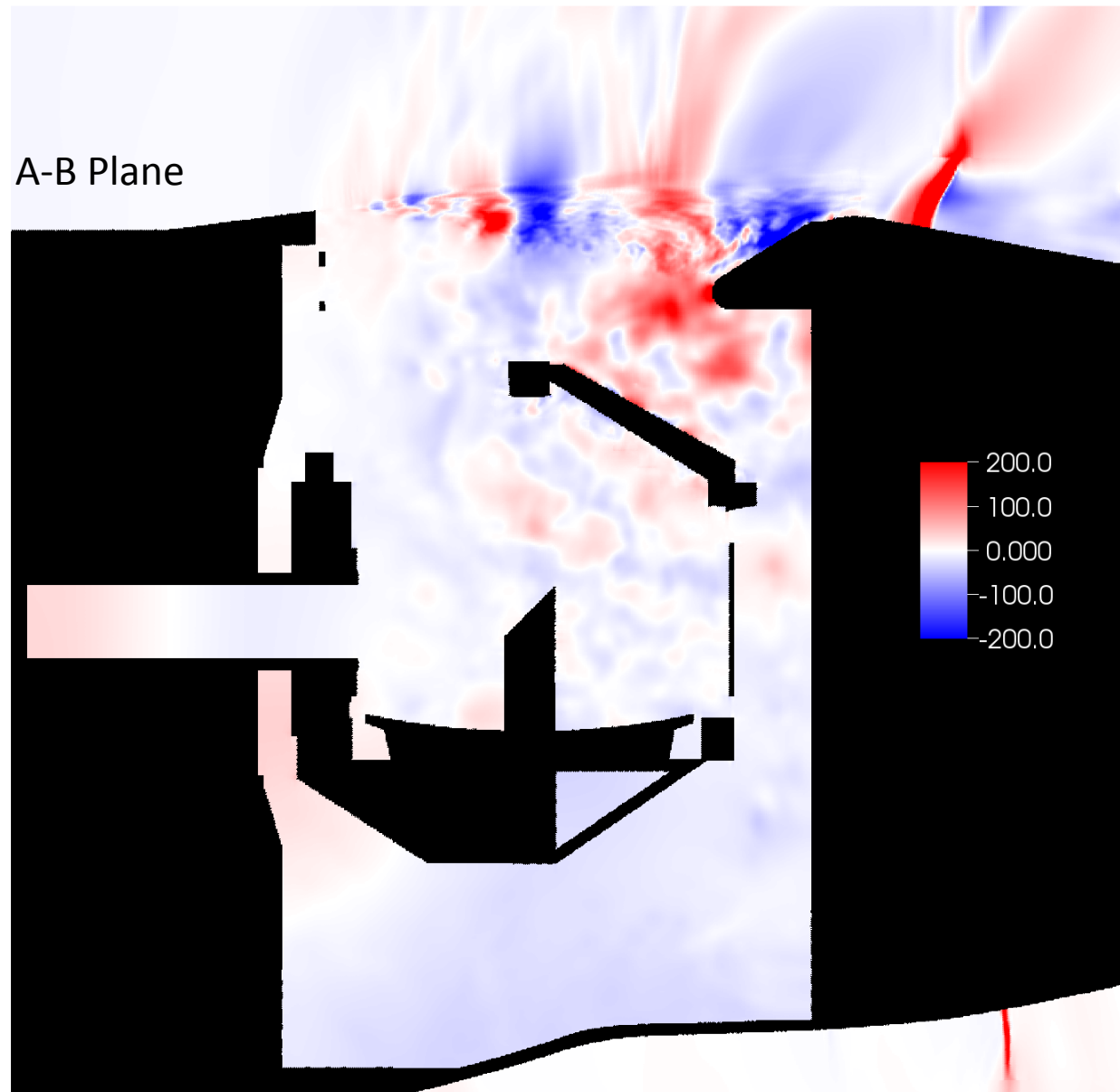
Mode 1 captures cavity mode which is coupled to unsteady pressure in shear layer. Coupling with shock.

# Proper Orthogonal Decomposition: Mode 2



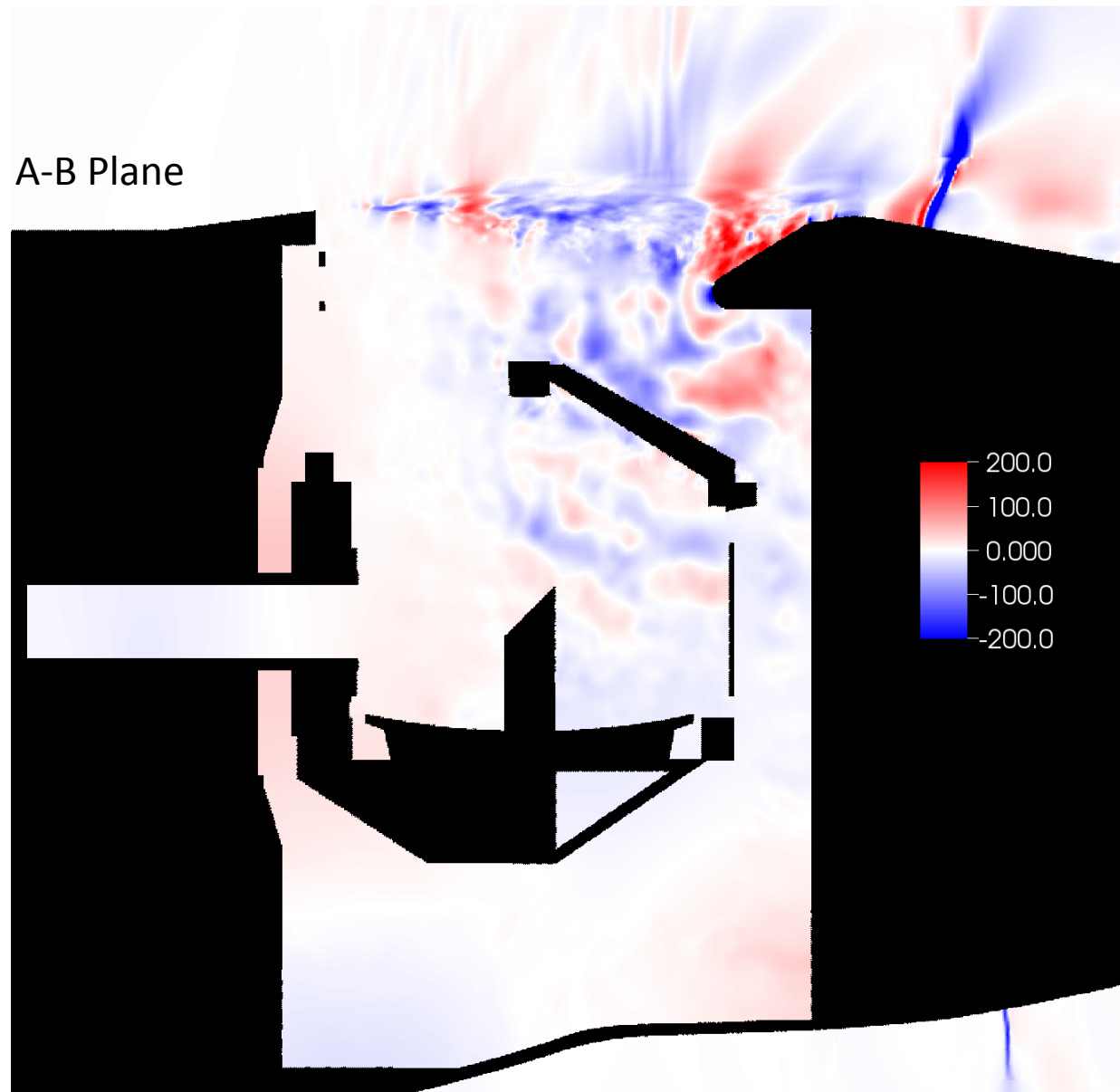
Mode 2 is dominant in shear layer and some presence in cavity can be observed. Coupling with shock.

# Proper Orthogonal Decomposition: Mode 3



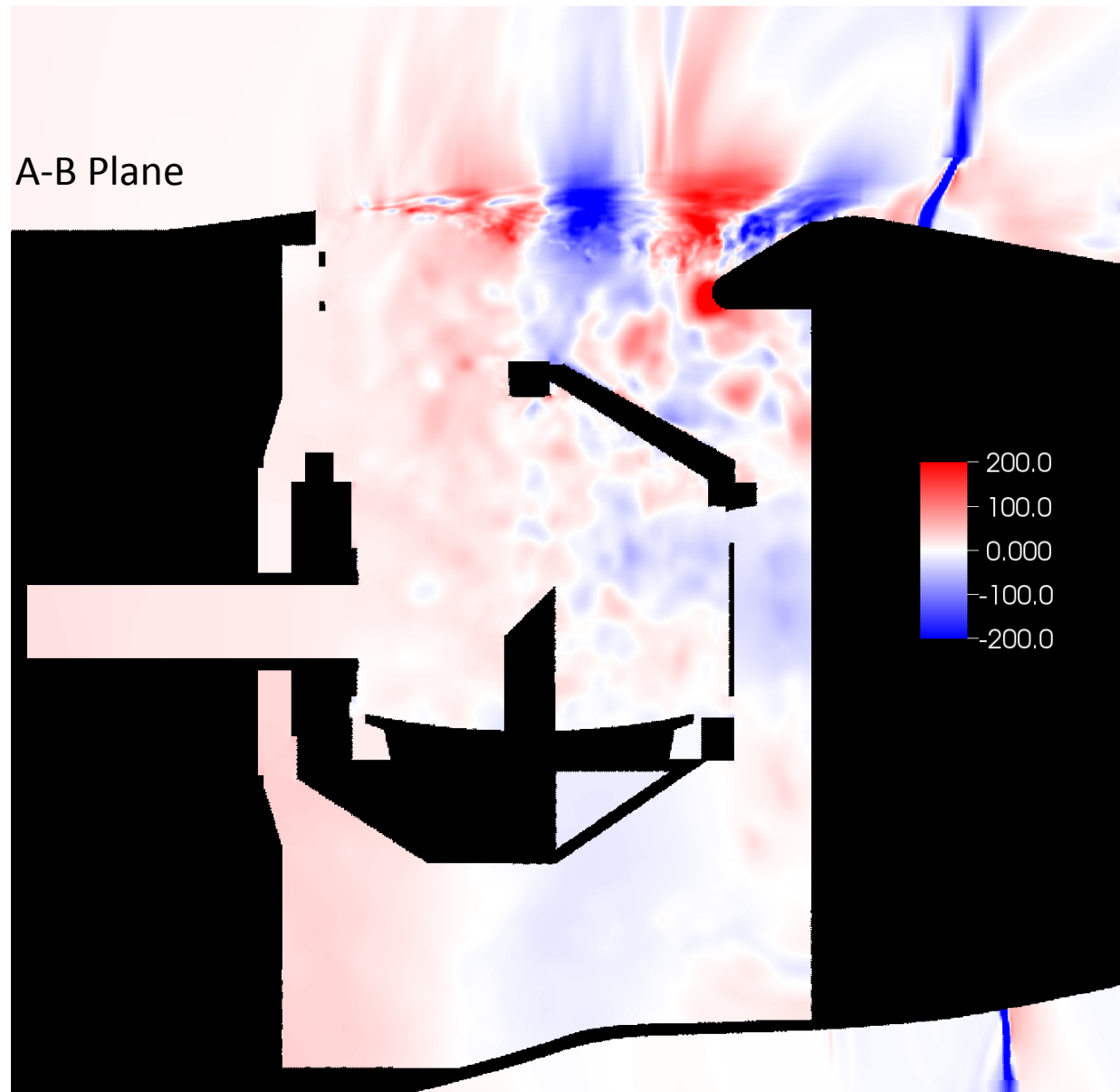
Modes 3-6 are similar to previous modes: most dominant in shear layer and some coupling to cavity mode. Coupling with shock.

# Proper Orthogonal Decomposition: Mode 4



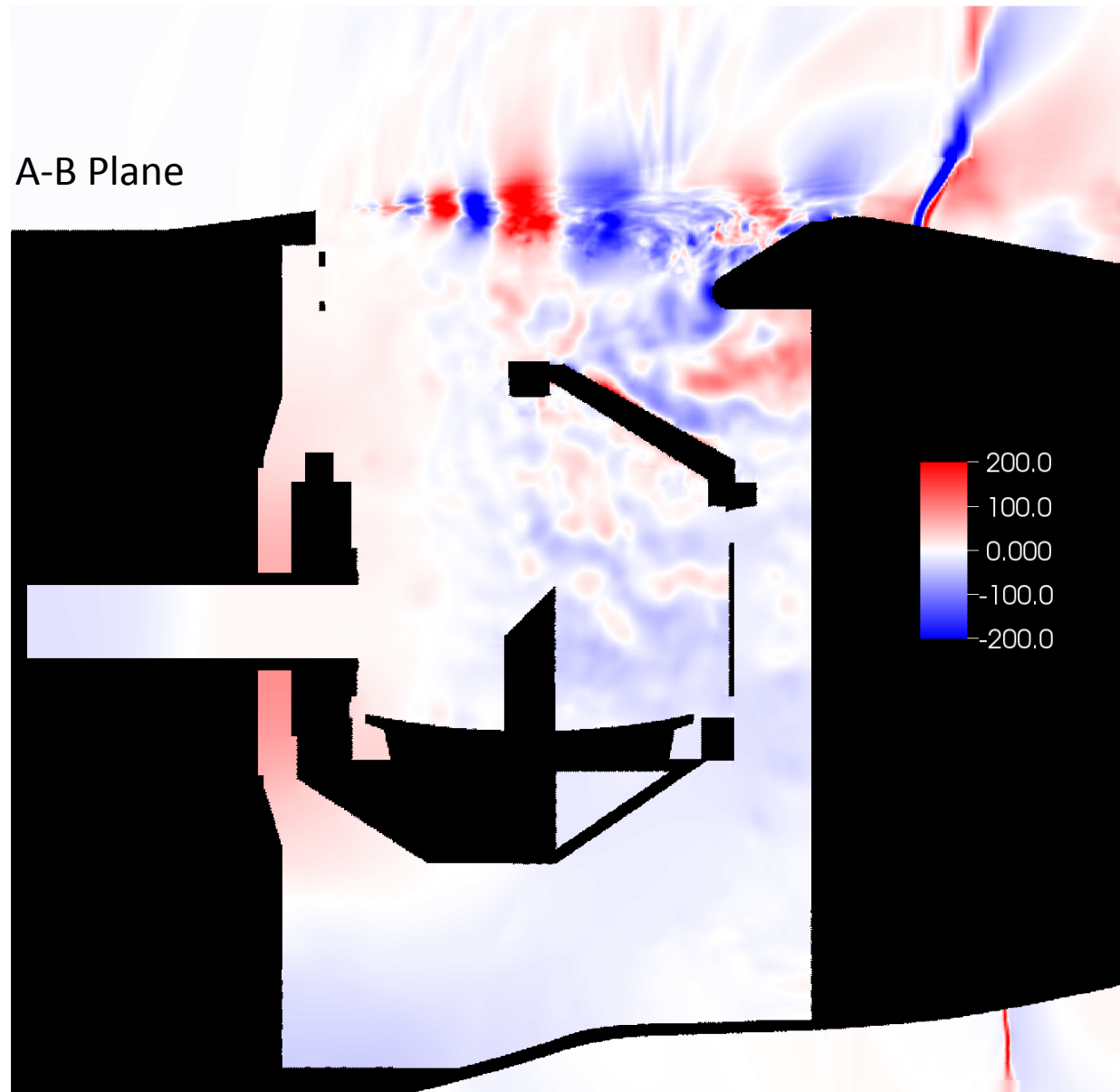
Modes 3-6 are similar to previous modes: most dominant in shear layer and some coupling to cavity mode. Coupling with shock.

# Proper Orthogonal Decomposition: Mode 5



Modes 3-6 are similar to previous modes: most dominant in shear layer and some coupling to cavity mode. Coupling with shock.

# Proper Orthogonal Decomposition: Mode 6



Modes 3-6 are similar to previous modes: most dominant in shear layer and some coupling to cavity mode. Coupling with shock.



# Summary

- Summary

- State-of-the-art simulation results demonstrate capabilities
  - Unsteady higher-order with shock capturing, grid flexibility, wall modeling, scalability, etc.
- Post processed data provides insight into ongoing flow physics
  - Shear layer breakdown
  - Coupling between cavity mode and impinging shear layer
- Spectral and POD analyses suggest that unsteady flow field is well captured

- Future

- Fluid structure interaction
- Detailed validation with flight/experimental data
- Unsteady load integration on critical hardware
- Shape optimization

# Acknowledgments

- SOFIA Project for their support
- NASA Advanced Supercomputing (NAS) division
- LAVA Team (Emre Sozer, Shayan Moini-Yekta, Jeff Housman)
- Derrick Yabut (Summer Intern) & Henry Lee (STC Inc.)

Questions ?